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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

VOL. 15.

AUGUST, 1890.

No. 8.

C: A. CUTTER, PAUL L. FORD, *Editors.*

THE annual call of the A. L. A. to its members and to librarians in general is issued. The program is excellent; the attendance will be large; the mountain air is strengthening; the excursion should be delightful; and though one cannot get any satisfactory acquaintance with the White Mountain country in the time that we can give to it, yet much can be seen and enjoyed in a three days' ride, if Jupiter Pluvius permits. Of course the main thing is ostensibly the papers and discussions; but, as has often been said, quite as much practical good comes from the little library conferences that are held in going to and from the place of meeting, between the sessions, and in the excursion that follows.

THAT the Association contains many men — and women — of many minds, is sufficiently evidenced by the various, and it may be alleged, contradictory suggestions made to President Crunden and scheduled in this issue. But that is, after all, the best of it. Such organizations serve their best purpose in striking the spark of suggestion from the flint-and-steel of controversy. The opinion in fact seems to grow that the face-to-face, snap talk, is even better than the papers, however good they may be, though these serve an excellent purpose in kindling the fire of discussion. The "question-box" should also furnish good texts — so let every one come primed with good questions.

THE library profession can no longer be spoken of as an unorganized calling. It is, in fact, beginning to be difficult for a librarian to remember to how many L. A.s he belongs, what with the American Library Association, the various sections thereof, and in New York the new State Library Association and the Library Club. All of these are good in their way and are doing excellent service, provided human limitations for holding meetings and belonging to things are not overpassed, and not too much is attempted by any one of the organizations. Nevertheless, the danger just now may be in over-organization rather than the lack of it, and it is perhaps worth while to put in a word of caution.

MR. KENT's complaint that we do not give enough attention to school libraries is true, but his astonishment thereat is not justified. How can the State, city, college librarians talk with any profitable result of libraries that they know nothing about? Let the school librarians raise their voices; let them detail their difficulties and wants. Then, if the experience of the other librarians suggests to them any remedies or any good advice, Mr. Kent may be sure that they will not be backward in offering it. But at present they are no more qualified to treat the subject than to discuss the libraries of the Kalmuc Tartars. The American Library Association was founded by the heads of the larger public, college, mercantile, and proprietary libraries, who felt the need of taking counsel together and of mutual encouragement. They knew where the shoe pinched them, and they discussed means of making it easier. They did not complain because the librarians of the immense libraries, the British Museum and the Bibliothèque Nationale and the like, had not considered their case and told them what to do. They took Hercules' advice to the carter, and Byron's to the hereditary bondsmen. But when the State Librarians at last woke up to their deplorable state, the American Library Association eagerly welcomed them as a section of an organization that wishes to include every class of librarians who care for their librarianship. But we believe that the movement of any body of men, to be effectual, must come from within. There must be a sense of need, not necessarily among all the members of the class, nor even among very many, but in at least one person, whose stirring shall wake up the others. Mr. Kent's letter shows that one school librarian knows the unhappy state of his fellows. Let him be the Moses to lead the whole host out of the land of bondage. As to the time chosen for the meeting this year we can only repeat the declaration of the Executive Committee that it is the earliest date when accommodations can be secured for so large a party.

IT is to be hoped that the meeting of the State Librarians' Association in connection with the general Conference may be one of the special features of the latter, as this is the first year after its organization, and if it is to be a live association it ought to show fruit this year. There is an

unusual opportunity before the State librarians in the interest of good cataloguing. In no respect is our cataloguing so deficient as in relation to State publications. In connection with the American Catalogue, an endeavor is being made to obtain from the State librarians, or other State officers, as adequate lists as possible of the State documents of the 1884-1890 period. Excellent work has been done by Mr. Tillinghast, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Griswold, of New York, in preparing lists of their respective State documents as a model for other States, but the replies from most sections outside of New England are not encouraging. Probably some report on this subject will be made at the Conference, and it is to be hoped that the result may be an awakening of interest in the subject in time to get an approximately good catalogue of the publications of the several States during the period mentioned which will—as in the case of the list of government publications in the last American Catalogue—give a clue to previous issues. It may be interesting here to note that the style for the government publications list having been set in the last American Catalogue by the personal work of the editor, that list will be continued on the same plan in an appendix to the forthcoming volume, the work having already been carried through to completion by Mr. Hickox, who of course had the material at hand, and has recast that material into the proper shape. As this new catalogue of government publications comes up to July 1, 1890, enterprising librarians who have not subscribed to Mr. Hickox's periodical should find it desirable to do so from that date, so as to keep their catalogue of government publications up to time.

Communications.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

It is astonishing to me that librarians and the LIBRARY JOURNAL are so taken up with their own pet libraries, their free public libraries, their university college libraries, and those pests to a small town, the Y. M. C. A. libraries, that they have no room, or make none, for a class of librarians whose field for good is not second to those mentioned. I mean the school libraries, particularly of the higher, the secondary schools, that should go hand in hand with school work.

What is the reason for their neglect? Is it because they are small usually, or because they are generally thrown on to the shoulders of an already overworked teacher?

If for the latter reason, surely some stir ought to be made in this matter, and the immense possibilities of such a library should be shown. If I

did not read the LIBRARY JOURNAL and had not become impressed with the fact that the most important element in a librarian's make up is usually—no matter what he considers necessary—a most luscious egotism, I should say that the secondary school library is to the use of a library through life what the kindergarten or primary school is to other higher educational methods. Too often such libraries are locked up and unused, the teacher in charge has never heard of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and is thus saved the disappointment of never finding anything of vital importance to his or her library in it.

I wish very much that this matter might be talked about in the JOURNAL, and this class of librarians be more often heard from. As an instance of how we are forgotten, the meeting of the A. L. A. is planned for September, when no school-teacher or school librarian can go.

H. W. KENT.

PECK LIBRARY, July 22, 1890.

WORCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY: A CORRECTION.

IN my communication to the LIBRARY JOURNAL, June 7, I wrote "catalogue of books which readily circulate." By putting in a comma and by adding an "s" to "circulate" a different meaning is given to the sentence, and I am made to boast, instead of merely stating which of the volumes in our library are included in the printed catalogue and supplement.

On page 187 of the same number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL there is a paragraph which purports to give an abstract of the last printed report of this library. It is stated that "eight delivery stations are to be established." The words of the report are: "It is *proposed* to establish the present year eight delivery stations in the suburbs or Worcester." These stations will not be established the present year. The city government did not think it well to spend money for that purpose now, because we are spending a large sum, taken from money raised by taxation, in putting up a new library building.

The abstract reads: "The reading-room and reference department are hereafter to be opened on Sunday, from 2 to 9 p.m., and on holidays in the forenoons also." These statements may lead to misunderstandings. The library has had its reading-rooms and its library, for purposes of reference, open on Sundays for many years; in fact, it was the first municipal library in New England to afford such privileges. The hours during which the reading-room was open on Sundays are, as stated in the abstract, 2 to 9 p.m.

The step in advance which has been taken recently, and which is spoken of in the report, is to open the reading-rooms and the whole library (circulating as well as reference) for the purposes of reference on legal holidays during the same hours that they are open on week-days generally. That is to say, for the purposes just mentioned, the library can be used every day in the year.

In the abstract it is stated that we issued 77,208 volumes in the year covered by the last report. We really issued, according to the report, 184,959 volumes.

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN.

ACCESS TO SHELVES.—II.

WORCESTER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

We keep several hundred books of reference and all magazines, reviews, and literary and scientific papers in places where they may be handled freely without asking permission.

I can say from perfect knowledge that during the last nineteen or twenty years the annual loss has been little or nothing.

The reference-books and magazines, etc., have been examined three or four times a day by the use of shelf lists and a list of periodicals.

It is perfectly practicable in public libraries to place on shelves to which anybody may have access collections of books that are in especial demand by scholars or some other body of residents. It has been customary in Worcester to carry books (frequently in large numbers) to rooms in which students wished to use them and, in the case of persons to be trusted, to leave them in the rooms alone.

In the new building which is being put up, large and small rooms for the use of individual students and classes have been provided, and in them it is expected that many persons will use books unwatched.

In the Worcester Library, as in all public libraries, directors and the executive officers of the library are allowed to go to the shelves without asking permission, and permission to go there is readily granted to many ex-directors and to a few instructors and special students.

The librarian is always willing, when he cannot allow a person to go to the shelves alone, to send an assistant with him, and in all cases to have as many books brought as users of the library need for consultation or study. Much aid is also afforded in the selection of popular books by the general reader.

The privilege of going to the shelves should be accorded in public libraries as freely as it can be safely, as well as in other kinds of libraries.

I do not see why it is not practicable, if rooms can be properly arranged and if a large enough corps of assistants can be had, to allow persons desiring to do so to go to the shelves in the circulating departments of libraries, or to the whole library when it is almost wholly made up of current literature which can be readily replaced. In order that economy may be secured in managing a library in this way I should think that it would be desirable to have as many books on one floor as possible.

It seems to me to be certainly practicable in a

building arranged for the purpose, and in a library well supplied with assistants, to open the popular portions of a library for many hours during the week, that is to say during such portions of the time as there is not a rush on the part of applicants for books.

I hope to see the time when the general public will have free access to the shelves of popular libraries and will find on them most of the books uncovered.

The experiment in the Cleveland Public Library will be watched by me with great interest and in a hopeful spirit.

Now it must be said, on the other hand, that real dangers are incurred in allowing access to the shelves, unless persons using the library can be kept constantly in sight by officers of the library. Unless I am mistaken, some of our mercantile libraries have lost large numbers of volumes and have had many sets rendered imperfect by allowing members of the associations to which they belong to roam at will among the shelves unwatched.

Every librarian knows of instances of theft. I am not ready to say that it seems to me feasible to allow everybody who wishes to go to the shelves in the reference departments of great public libraries. It seems to me that the risk is too great. It is practicable, I have no doubt, in the case of a select body of stockholders, such as make up the membership of the Boston Athenæum. Dr. Guild says it works well to let students go without restriction into any portion of the library of Brown University. But although unrestricted access to the shelves is practicable in some large reference libraries, I do not think that we can get attendants enough in the reference departments of large public libraries to guard sufficiently the treasures contained in them and give access to the shelves in the more popular portions at the same time. When sets of books in a library are many of them worth \$500 or \$1000 apiece or more, and when individual volumes, in considerable numbers, are worth on account of their rarity or for other reasons \$50 or \$100, and when a library contains many books which cannot be replaced, great care must be taken to guard its treasures. Very likely the time will come when great public reference libraries will be able to guard their books and yet allow free access to the shelves to all persons.

Meanwhile it seems to me desirable to let special students go to the shelves of reference

departments of public libraries in accordance with the provisions of carefully prepared rules, and that attendants should be at hand to go with some of those students and with such other persons as need to go there. Then, if a generous spirit is shown about going for books on the part of library attendants, students and the public generally will be well served.

Of course I do not consider it practicable to allow all persons to go to the shelves of the circulating departments of public libraries, with library buildings constructed as they usually are, and having shelving and furniture arranged in the manner commonly in vogue.

SAMUEL SWETT GREEN.

MINNEAPOLIS (MINN.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

WE admit freely to our shelves professors, teachers, clergymen, students of the higher grade in academies, students of the State University, and in general all special investigators, whether such by profession or by transient devotion. To such persons we issue cards, "shelf permits," for various periods of time according to the individual need, in no case for over a year, and rarely for more than six months. Such cards give the run of the book-rooms except the department of Prose Fiction and Juveniles. They do not authorize the handling of large illustrated works, which require special permission in addition, and sometimes the supervision, "aid," of an attendant. Of material of signal rarity, we have practically none; nothing "unique," little that could not be replaced. But of finely illustrated folios we have perhaps a large proportion for our size; and these, Piranesi, Pistolesi, Chenu's Conchology, Dresser's Birds, Napoleon's Egypt, Lepsius, Prisse d'Avennes, etc., are all kept at present in the main book-rooms, without lock or key.

We have not as yet exacted a formal statement of necessities qualifying for the shelf privileges. We believe in the value of direct contact with the books upon the shelves; we have provided alcove facilities and desks in the book-rooms, and a ledge to the face of every stack, all for the comfort of the student, and until abuse shall convince us of the unwisdom of our method we shall rather extend than contract the circle of the privileged. We cannot, to be sure, admit mere vagarious inclination to be a sufficient qualification; we must require definiteness of purpose for the issue of a roving commission, a shelf permit. But even the vague inquirer, demanding "a good book" and failing of satisfaction through the ordinary channels, is taken to the shelves and allowed to pluck for himself. Thus, beyond those holding

cards, our entire body of readers may, upon request, get special access to the shelves.

Our library is as yet small (35,000 volumes); it has been open but eight months, and our clientele is not as yet an unwieldy one (we have issued somewhat over 10,000 cards). I do not conceive that the growth of the library should introduce a counterbalancing element; the growth of our constituency may do so. But as concerns the professional men, educationists, and special students, it ought not to do so; and as concerns the rest of the public I am loath to think it need do so. Our book-rooms have facilities for a hundred special students at a time, with no inconvenience to our issue work. Books are not confused upon the shelves, for they are prohibited from being replaced there by any but the attendants.

As to actual abuse in the way of mutilation, I doubt if that be likely to ensue to any significant extent. Our public may perhaps be called as yet unsophisticated. They certainly do take a pride in the building and its furnishings and are perhaps unsophisticated enough to extend this reverence to the books themselves. At all events, we believe in trusting our public; we put out a large number of reference-books for consultation without formality; we put all our current periodicals in an open reading-room, to be overhauled at will, and usually without supervision, and on Sundays and holidays we put out several hundred books of a miscellaneous popular character whose use is "charged" in no way. We have missed a few numbers of magazines, but thus far no books. We should submit, however, to a loss of some hundreds of dollars worth each year rather than abandon a practice which is of such clear benefit to the 99 honest people out of the 100, whose confiding intent must intensify the remorse of the perfidious hundredth when the sweets of purloined literature shall have soured upon his craven palate.

The rule which we apply to the book-rooms, while varying in generality, is identical in principle.

HERBERT PUTNAM.

SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ACCESS to the shelves in the circulating department is forbidden to all except attendants and trustees, as we do not think it advisable to allow privileged classes in a library supported mainly by public taxation. In the reading-room is a Danner revolving case which contains a few reference-books, such as Chambers's Cyclopædia, English, French, German, and Latin dictionaries, gazetteer, biographical dictionary, atlas, direct-

ries, etc. Those wishing to make further investigations can do so by asking the attendant, who will allow admission to the reference-room, which opens directly from the reading-room. This contains nearly 1000 vols., which can be freely consulted by all, with the exception that children wishing to look over *Harper's Weekly*, *Young People*, and such illustrated books, must do so in the general reading-room, which is more immediately under the supervision of the attendant.

GARDNER M. JONES.

NEW HAVEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

I HAVE had experience in three libraries where access to shelves was allowed. 1st, Wesleyan University Library. When I was in college all the alcoves were closed and special permission was necessary to enter them. Before I took charge of the library, however, this restriction was removed and free access was allowed. The only stipulation was, that books taken down should never be replaced but laid on the counter-ledge or alcove table. This was especially necessary as the books had no numbers on the backs and hence nothing to show they were in or

out of place. Except in case of one student who took away scores of volumes before he was finally detected,—many of the volumes, perhaps most of them, were recovered—there was no drawback on the success of the change, so far as I know, and I think it is still considered a necessity, on account of the usefulness of it, to allow the privilege.

2d. Russell Library, Middletown, Conn. Here unrestricted access was allowed while I was in charge. It was mainly the fiction shelves that the public went to, and some confusion resulted, as sometimes people placed the books where they did not belong. Still I did not consider the evil great enough to take away the privilege.

3d. The Free Public Library of New Haven, Conn. Here we allow people access to shelves except in case of fiction. With our circulation of over 10,000 a month the number of people who would like to and would, if allowed, go to the fiction shelves would, I think, be so great that the inconvenience would be intolerable. But in other classes we are glad to have people look at the books on the shelves, and no evil results have as yet appeared.

W. K. STETSON.

BEING A LIBRARIAN.—II.

THE subject is a broad one. This article will touch briefly only a few points.

1. We might first ask about the pecuniary rewards. Generally speaking, they are small. The librarian does not become rich by his profession. Those who are able to make money in other vocations may hesitate to follow this one. On the other hand, some, possibly, who do not succeed in others may succeed in this. Without considering whether the profession is underpaid, we may call attention to one disadvantage connected with it in a peculiar degree. The places are few; there are few changes; and if one is worthy a better paying position he has little chance of getting one, as compared with a teacher, for instance. Again, libraries are mostly unable to pay higher salaries than they do pay. They are generally poor.

2. As to the attractiveness of library work, much depends upon the make-up of the person; much, also, upon the particular library. There are also many different departments of library work. Some persons unfit for the position of desk-attendant are excellent as cataloguers. The chief librarian may be much pleased with his work in one library and find it scarcely endurable in another. General statements must therefore be made and received with caution. Of course,

the librarian generally finds all the education he has useful, and need of more, with some opportunity of getting more. He will need to keep informed on current literature. He will be called upon to guide inquirers in their reading and study. There are agreeable and disagreeable people whom he will meet. There is the pleasure of buying new books, the pain of buying but few. He will find the public generally reading what he himself thinks little worth reading, and his efforts to turn reading to better books too seldom successful. There will be annoyances caused by mistakes in the construction of the building, by wrongly-designed furniture. But, taking everything into consideration, the librarian has little to complain of in comparison with mankind in general.

3. On contemplating, librarianship has need of various qualities. Of the first importance is a good education and an intelligent, open mind. The librarian ought to be able to select the books to be purchased; and, even if this work is done by others, he should still be able to guide readers. This implies not only a good liberal education in the schools, but extended reading. Consider the range of subjects of the books of a library with that of the curriculum of a college, and it is seen how insufficient a mere college education is.

4. Of hardly less importance is business ability — not financial ability so much as executive ability. The administration of the library is, of course, most important. Questions of binding, charging book loans, shelving, catalogues, and many others must be answered with common sense, or the usefulness of the library may be greatly impaired and money wasted. Then the relations to the public must be carefully regarded. It is easy to make needless and vexatious rules; or to have too few rules or enforce them capriciously. Training is, therefore, always to be desired. And the mistakes which so many well-educated but inexperienced librarians have made ought to become less frequent.

5. The librarian ought to be a man of progress. The libraries are doing more than they used to do. The standard is higher. But this progressive movement is yet in its infancy. If librarians generally would only help in carrying out schemes of co-operation, much good work, of which Poole's Index is an example, might be done. The educational work of libraries, the positive influence of increasing the reading of good books, should become of greater extent.

W. K. STETSON.

QUANTI EST SAPERE.

Not long since a young man who had interested himself in library work wrote to me from one of the back towns inquiring what was needful to fit himself for a librarian's position, and whether the profession was remunerative? I replied substantially as follows: "My dear young friend, if you want to have all the conceit, natural and acquired, taken out of you, by all means adopt the librarian's profession. As for requirements for librarianship the following desiderata may be useful to you: You will find that, in addition to whatever existing store of knowledge you possess, you must know not only all that you ought to know,

but what everybody else ought to know besides. You will find it convenient to be able to tell anyone whatever he wants to know on any given subject, and where to find all important references to it. You will need to have the bibliography of every subject at your tongue's end; to know what books have been published in any country from the time of Caxton down to the present day; to know what books are to be published, and when; to know what books are out of print and what are not. You will have to be familiar with the name of every writer and every noted character in all ages. Furthermore, you will have to be such an acute mind-reader that you can infallibly distinguish the right person under the wrong name; to know, for example, that when a person asks for Silliman's Travels in South America he or she means Schliemann's Ilios or Troja. Moreover, you must be able to tell the authorship of any extract, prose or poetry, in any language, and where to find it; to know the author of any poem, the correct rendering of any phrase and by whom first used, and, if in a foreign language, the meaning in addition; to know definitely all about history, genealogy, and heraldry. In short, you must be a combined edition of the encyclopædia, dictionary, dictionary of phrase and fable, universal history, biographer's manual, and general bibliography.

"Then, my dear friend, when you know all this thoroughly, you stand a pretty good chance of being able to answer correctly one question a day out of several hundred. As to the compensation, I will only say that, viewed in the light of the information he is supposed to have and to disburse, the librarian ought to be paid at the rate of \$25,000 a year, but I scarcely need say that he is not paid this nor anything like it."

R. B.

CATALOGUE CODE CONDENSED FROM CUTTER.

An author-entry for to make
 'Tis best the author's name to take,
 Or, if that is not to your mind,
 Some substitute you'll have to find.

When books are writ by two or more
 Don't write the author o'er and o'er,
 But take the one that you like best
 And then refer from all the rest.

Pseudonymous works search out with care
 And write the author's real name there;
 Or, if of several you have heard
 Just use the one that's most preferred.

Reporters, as a rule, are found
 Wherever trials do abound.
 And they will mostly answer well
 For authors of the tales they tell.

If young John Smith to save his life
 Can't write his name as aught but *Smythe*,
 Though *Smith* his father lived and died,
 The son goes 'mongst the glorified.

"*Rodiez* of men" should always be
 Entered as authors you'll agree,
 Since the sad reader surely finds
 Too many authors have no *mindz*.

Books, by whatever title known,
 Enter by subject—that alone;
 Munchausen's work should meet your eyes
 Beneath the simple heading: "Lies."

A "maid of honor" keeps her style
 Unless for something *more north white*,
 And then (this comes from Malaprop),
 "Honor before Ladies" always drop. A. G. S.



YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

From the New York Sun.

YALE'S NEW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE building is the first fireproof structure the university ever had. It is of the early Romanesque style of architecture, three stories high. Attached is a reading-room, whose elegant interior is a pleasant surprise as compared with the plain and rather severe exterior of the building. The porch is entered through a massive stone archway, the ceiling of which is in marble mosaic. On either side of the arch are large columns with carved capitals. The porch leads to a spacious lobby, which affords direct communication with the reading-room and the library proper. The arrangement of the interior of the library is entirely different from the conventional plan. The building is divided into separate lofts about 16 feet in height. Bookcases from 7 to 8 feet high cover the floors, space only being reserved for passageways between them. Above the tops of the cases there are windows which throw ample light upon the cases. Lifts connect the delivery department with each floor.

The reading-room is a wing of the main building, octagonal in form, with a handsomely decorated domed ceiling. Its striking feature is an elaborate memorial window, 30 feet in length by 5 in height, and containing over twenty figures, designed as an allegorical representation of the harmony between religion and science. The design is by Mr. Louis Tiffany, of this city, who gave the work nearly a year's study. The window is placed 8 feet above the floor, and is richly set in African marble columns, with carved Echallion marble capital. Bas-reliefs of the great men of letters in ancient times occupy the arched recesses over the windows. The reading-room will accommodate 90 readers, and space is reserved for

5000 volumes. The library itself will accommodate 200,000 volumes. The building is thoroughly ventilated by a mechanical process.

The walls are of red sandstone, with trimmings of Long Meadow stone. The roofs and floors are of iron and masonry. The dimensions of the library proper are 110 by 50 feet. The architects are Messrs. J. C. Cady & Co., of New York City, who also built "Dwight Hall" and the "Peabody Museum."

HOW TO "PROMOTE" A LIBRARY.

AN INTERVIEW WITH JUDGE KEATLEY.

STOUC City, Iowa, is discussing a project for a new library building. The *Journal* of that city, believing that the city ought to have a library, first sent a reporter to Judge Keatley, who said: "I was one of the trustees of the free public library of Council Bluffs for a long time, and a member of the first board selected by the City Council when the city first took advantage of the new law authorizing cities in Iowa to establish free public libraries. There had been a circulating library before kept up by private subscription, but it maintained a precarious existence and people generally took very little interest in it. Hon. D. C. Bloomer and Horace Everett, public-spirited citizens, labored earnestly until the law was passed authorizing a tax to be levied to found a public library. The Council in selecting trustees took particular pains to elect such citizens as were known to be zealous in respect to making it a success. The first board of trustees consisted of such men as Mr. Bloomer, Mr. Everett, one of the most wealthy men of the city; Judge Reed, of the Supreme Court; the Rev. Cyrus Hamlin, a graduate of Harvard, and a scholarly

young Congregationalist divine who fully understood and appreciated the workings of the Boston Library, and other gentlemen of known friendliness to such an institution. The tax was about \$1500 for the first year. After the library was fully established and the people began to realize the great good it was doing, they cheerfully voted for a large increase of the rate of taxation for library purposes. Though the amount realized at first was small, as trustees we did not consider any question of accumulating funds for the erection of a splendid library building in the future; but went to work to make the library itself attractive to the people. That was the first consideration. We not only devoted every cent we could spare to the purchase of books, in addition to those which had been made a gift to the free public library by the prior voluntary association, but we secured rooms convenient for the housing of the books, and space for reading for strangers and others who desired to avail themselves of such books of reference as the library contained. In every city like Council Bluffs and Sioux City there are great numbers of young men who have no leisure to read during the day. They are not able to subscribe to many magazines and newspapers of a purely literary character, and yet would be glad to have free use of them. We provided large numbers of these, some subscribed for, others furnished gratis by the publishers, and so arranged them in a room near enough to that where the books were kept to afford the librarian an opportunity to oversee everything. Strangers, too, frequented the reading-room and gladly availed themselves of its facilities.

"In view of its probable utility to the public schools the trustees took especial pains to procure encyclopædias and works of that character, for reference, and with a view to interest the pupils of the higher grades in the public schools and aid them in their studies. We found this an invaluable auxiliary, and many of the graduates of the high school owe a debt of gratitude for this provision, and freely and generously pay it in thanks.

"The purchase of all books was entrusted to a special committee, and recognizing what booksellers themselves experience, that works of fiction find the most ready sale, many books of the best and most popular of that character were put on the shelves. Many deplored the great disproportion between works of fiction taken out and those containing more solid and substantial matter. In a year or so this proportion sensibly diminished and justified the plan of the trustees.

"Again, besides spending every possible dollar for books in the beginning, so as to convince the people that we really had a free public library, we secured room for housing it in the very centre of the business portion of the city; and by neat and attractive signs, near the street, advertised its location, so that those who were almost thoughtless of such things would have their attention drawn to it. We also made free use of the local newspapers by publishing the proceedings of the boards of trustees, and the receipt of new books was always thus announced. We also had the books convenient by catalogue, and the

catalogues printed for free distribution. Such a catalogue soon was seen in most of the households. I cannot describe in detail the increase of interest which became aroused, because it is one of those things upon which you can draw no exact lines. One year shades into another so imperceptibly that you can only observe the general result after a lapse of time. The first consideration was to get books of the right kind, and a great many of them, so that when the persons called for them there were great numbers to select from. People are a little fastidious about such things, and are more impressed and attracted by a great number of books well arranged than they are by the architectural display made in the building inside or outside.

"While there was practically no opposition to voting the tax in the first instance, many of the representative men of the city did not at first take any active interest in its success; but the local papers constantly hammering at the subject, interest soon began to spread among that class, and more than ordinary pride in the library as an institution of the city was finally awakened. Sioux City has more local pride than any city in the West, and her representative men justly take every occasion to display it. Many men come here from abroad, who would be as much interested in knowing that we had a large and useful free public library as that we had a Corn Palace. There is another thing. We are rapidly developing manufactories to employ large numbers of skilled workmen of various kinds. I affirm it, as a matter of my own observation, that there is no class of American citizens who make so general a use of a free public library as the men who are operatives in the various manufactories of the country."

STOCKING THE NEWBERRY LIBRARY.

From the Chicago News.

TEDIOUS and exacting is the business of making a library. It is a slow process and requires a technical knowledge and experience that few persons possess. The popular presumption is that the librarian takes a number of catalogues of books, checks off such volumes or sets as he wants, and forwards the order to some reputable dealer to be filled. But books can't be ordered as are goods that may be chosen from a price-list. The librarian must first consult the purpose of the collection he is making. After that the details are a hundred, while the purchase is one.

The Newberry collection is to be a scholars' library, and with this idea in his head Librarian William F. Poole is burrowing ten hours a day in a wilderness of catalogues and bibliographical encyclopædias, selecting the books he needs. With half a dozen assistants he was able to collect in the last year 17,191 volumes and 1879 pamphlets. Of these, 1729 volumes and 760 pamphlets were donations. The actual purchases, therefore, were 15,462 volumes and 1119 pamphlets.

To accomplish this result the different editions of each work are the first matter of consideration. Then the character of the binding is of serious con-

cern. After that the price is figured on, though with the unlimited means at his disposal Mr. Poole is not hampered in this direction. Still a reasonable economy is observed. The whole lower floor of the small building now occupied by Mr. Poole is a directory of books. Bibliographical dictionaries of books printed in all the principal modern languages occupy the shelves. Bibliographical records of American, English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Russian, and Scandinavian publications are within easy reach — more than one thousand volumes of them.

It is Mr. Poole's aim to select the best useful edition of each work. Editions de luxe are not sought, though they are sometimes purchased when the prices are not too extravagant and they are equal to the best. Morocco is Mr. Poole's standard of bindings — half morocco being his choice. Genuine Russia, something rare by the way, is another favorite of the distinguished librarian. Calf bindings are held in less favor because they are so frequently only imitations, being made of sheepskins instead of goatskins, of which the genuine calf is made.

The publishers and old-book collectors of Europe and America send their catalogues to the great libraries, and from these the sets are selected. Then the bibliographical encyclopædias are consulted to see how many editions of the book or set have been printed. If the book or set is rare or old the bibliographies are consulted, to see what prices these volumes have brought at noted sales. Catalogues of book auctions are closely watched, and an agent of the library attends every considerable sale. Mr. Poole has agents in New York and Boston, and in London, Paris, Leipzig, and other European cities. Books in foreign languages are purchased in the country in which they are published. The agents see that the volumes are what the catalogues represent them to be. The foreign catalogues are nearly always reliable. Some publishers are not noted for faithful representations, while the word of others is accepted without question.

Collectors frequently offer their libraries for sale, and the work of building a great library is thus often made easier. Mr. Poole frequently receives offers to sell rare volumes, and, though many of these books are not as rare as the owners imagine, valuable acquisitions are not infrequently made in this way. Few books are purchased merely as curiosities. They command high prices and are not always of special value. The Newberry Library contains some rare old volumes — a few that are 400 years old — but they were purchased rather for the purpose of showing the art of printing at that time than for any special information they contained.

The total collection made by Mr. Poole aggregates 33,330 volumes and 12,326 pamphlets. The historical collection of Americana is very large and will be made a leading feature of the Newberry Library. Among its rare sets is a complete collection of the records of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

The new temporary building of the library at the corner of State and Oak Streets will be ready for occupancy in two months. It will contain

shelf space for 150,000 volumes and is expected to be sufficient for the purposes of the library for five years. It is 60 by 160 feet, two stories and a basement. It will contain reading-rooms, offices, and two large library-rooms running the entire length of the building. In the basement will be storage-rooms and apartments for the janitors and other help. The building has been planned with the view of converting it into small flats after the books are removed to the permanent library building. Three more stories will be added, partition walls will be put in and all the conveniences of a first-class apartment building. The ground on which it is built belongs to the Newberry estate and the rents derived from it will go toward the maintenance of the library.

THE LIBRARY ON SUNDAY.

BY R. CUSHMAN.

From the Pawtucket Times, July 9.

THE writer has lately noticed in the *Times* repeated congratulations to the public upon the large attendance at the Public Library on Sunday, apparently assuming that the large number and orderly conduct of the attendants justified the action of those who favored the Sunday opening, and condemned that of the one who opposed it, though it courteously gave him credit for sincerity.

The assumption seems to show a misapprehension of the ground of opposition. By this method of reasoning, if the socialistic idea of the paternal character of government shall advance far enough to lead the city to furnish steamboats for the free outing of its citizens on Sunday, under restraints upon their conduct similar to those exercised in the Public Library, the public will have overwhelming justification of such action in the number of those who will "attend" on pleasant summer Sundays. While there would be quite a difference in the expense, I fail to see any in the principle. Such excursioning for pleasure and health would be no more secular than reading the attractive secular books and papers relied upon to draw attendance at the library on Sunday.

The writer believes, as expressed by the Rev. Dr. Dunning, that "the Sabbath is imbedded in the creation." God himself set the example of keeping a day of rest, and when he gave the ten moral precepts for the guidance of the world for all time, he "imbedded" it in them. "He blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it" — made it a holy day — not a holiday. He rested the seventh day in honor of the completion of the creation of our world. When, in the new dispensation, a greater work than even creation was completed — the redemption of mankind by Christ — his disciples appear to have adopted the day of its completion as the Christian Sabbath — the day of rest and worship of the new dispensation.

But the day of the week appears to the writer of secondary importance — the important idea appears to be the consecration of one-seventh of the time to rest from secular occupations, for worship and works of mercy and necessity. While the government has no right to enforce a religious observance of the Sabbath, it has no right to offer inducements to secular occupations that tend to hinder it.

NEW YORK LIBRARIES AND THE WORKMEN.

"Free Lance" in the New York Star.

NEW YORK boasts of 29 public, or semi-public, libraries (as distinct from strictly private libraries), of which 10 are free to all and 5 are accessible at only a nominal fee; and yet only 4 of these 15 free, or nearly free, libraries are really available to the average clerk or workingman. These four libraries are therefore practically all that the mechanic or laborer can call free to him or his, and these four contain only one-fifteenth of the books in the public libraries. For all these libraries mentioned are shut during the only times the average workingman or woman can visit them — *i.e.*, the week-day evenings and Sundays. It is only insult to tell a man he is free to read books which are only to be read when he is not free to read them. The Astor Library, for example. Never since the library has been in existence has it ever been opened in the evening, or on a Sunday — the only times when it would be available to the wage-worker. Cannot the trustees repeal the soulless, unjust and therefore anti-Christian restrictions which prevent the vast majority of the inhabitants of this great city from enjoying its greatest library?

It is useless to say that they would not avail themselves of the possibilities thus offered them. We do not know that they would not till they have the opportunity.

The Lenox Library is closed every Monday as well as every evening and every Sunday. For all practical purposes, so far as the New York workingman is concerned, the Lenox Library might be located in Africa, instead of Fifth Avenue.

There is a library free to visitors in the Bible House, in Astor Place; but it, too, is closed on evenings and Sundays, though one might fancy that even a bigot might permit a "Bible House" library to be open on the Lord's day. The Woman's Library in Bleeker Street is not kept open in the evenings. It closes at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, to suit the convenience of its female employés, utterly regardless of the necessities of its would-be female patrons. And the Harlem Library closes its doors at least two hours too early — two evening hours which are worth more to the wage-worker for reading than all the rest of the twenty-four.

The Mercantile Library, with its 207,000 volumes, making the largest circulating library in the United States, has always kept open in the early portion of the evening, and thus doubles its benefits; but it closes too soon, and, alas, it closes on the great day of the week — the clerk's best if not only day for reading, Sunday, altogether. Its reading-room, full of newspapers and magazines, is not available on the "Lord's day." Why, in the Lord's name, not?

The Apprentices' Library has recently become a really free library. The library is open till nine o'clock. Why not till ten or eleven?

That most excellent, truly religious, truly sensible, and truly philanthropic and practical institution, the Y. M. C. A. — the Young Men's Christian Association (which has been called "the best working church in America" — "the people's church" — which for the nominal sum of \$5 a year

gives all the privileges of a club, a library, a school and a church combined), has a fine collection of books, comprising over 37,000 volumes, which is "free" to all respectably behaving persons, whether members or not. This excellent establishment is open every evening till ten o'clock, and every Sunday from two till nine o'clock. It is well patronized all the time by good and grateful young and old men.

The glorious Cooper Union free reading-rooms are open evenings and Sundays, and are always thronged, the number of free readers running from 1500 to 2000 daily. The Cooper Union Library embraces about 20,000 volumes and the finest and most complete set of Patent Office reports in the United States. These last are consulted by thousands of men.

The Young Men's Institute on the Bowery is a branch of the Y. M. C. A. which is doing a noble work. It is open every evening and on Sundays, combines the library, the social club, the gymnasium and the "institute," and is always thronged. Two cents per day, \$7 per year, is all the fee required for all the privileges conferred. It is one of the finest institutions in town — one of the glories of New York. Why should there not be one hundred and one such institutions?

The Young Women's Christian Association on East Fifteenth Street is a branch, a variation of the Y. M. C. A. It contains a library of some 12,000 volumes, well selected, and free to any and every respectable woman, or woman who tries to be respectable, in New York. It deserves and receives encouragement.

Nor must the little Free Library on Bond Street be forgotten. On the contrary, it should be elevated to a high place of honor, and the attention of the American people, and especially the citizens of New York, should be directed to it as a bright example. This place is always full — week time and Sundays — full of honest, intelligent persons who avail themselves of its privileges. There is no disorder among them. Thefts of books are unknown. Why should there not be a free library like this in every ward and district of this big city? There certainly ought to be, and there would be, were New York a truly civilized city and were New Yorkers really Christians.

It will appear from the above statements that whatever books may be included in the Y. M. C. A. Library and its branches, the Cooper Union Library, the Free Library in Bond Street and the Apprentices' Library are really free to the workingman or woman in New York, because accessible at such times as the workingman or woman is free to avail himself or herself of them. But it follows that all the other books or all the other libraries are not free, and, alas, these embrace by far the great majority of all the libraries and all the books — nearly fourteen-fifteenths.

The Astor Library, the Lenox Library and the rest should be thrown open to the wage-earner in the evening and on the Sabbath, and the number of free libraries and free reading-rooms, open all the week and all the year round, daytime, evening, Sunday, summer time and holidays, should be indefinitely increased, so that the working people might have ample opportunity to read. For the multitude like to read, when they can, and readers are seldom criminals and never fools.

The free libraries of New York will ever be only a blessing; they never can by any possibility become an evil, a danger, a menace. And what New York needs as much as it needs free libraries is a truly local historical library, a genuine "city library," not like that useless, disgraceful pretence at a city library in the City Hall. But a "universal public library," to be centrally situated and richly endowed, to contain all the works, ancient and modern, pertaining to American history, especially the history of New York City and State, together with copies of all American publications similar to the Congressional Library at Washington.

Such a library, to be called "The New York Library," would be worthy of New York.

DO FREE LIBRARIES DECREASE THE POPULAR SALE OF BOOKS.

THE recent growth of free libraries has raised the question in the book trade as to their effect upon the sale of books. A recent canvass of the publishing trade in New York, undertaken by the *Mail and Express*, brings out the opinion of several of the large publishing houses that the public library is an aid rather than a hindrance to selling books. Mr. R. U. Johnson, of the Century Company, said:

"We are confident that the establishment of free libraries tends to increase the sale of books by stimulating the literary tastes of the general reader. Probably few men who ever lived were prevented from writing a book by the fact that somebody else had written another. On the other hand, many a man's literary talent has been revealed to him by the work of others.

"It must be borne in mind that the system of supplying books to consumers is different in America and in England. Over there the edition of the book is largely regulated by the number of copies to be taken by Mudie's Library, the great circulating medium for British readers. In England the people depend largely upon the libraries, which send books all through the United Kingdom. This undoubtedly prevents the English from becoming a bookbuying nation. It isn't generally known that this is the reason why books are printed there in three or four volumes that would appear in this country in a single volume. This is to permit the different members of a family to read the book at the same time, so that it may be more quickly returned to the library.

"It is often superficially urged against fuller recognition of the rights of authors that England is a country of dear books. This is certainly the case, but it is not due to the copyright laws, but to the reading habits of the people. England, as a matter of fact, has probably a cheaper use of books than any other country in the world. The library system will probably never have any such hold in a large country like our own as it has in a compact country like Great Britain. The relations of the business of the book publisher in the United States to the library system would be very difficult to determine. As far as the Century Company is concerned, we have limited data on the subject; but I think it will be found that American publishers regard the library system as

a great ally, and not as a foe to their prosperity. The chief foe to the publication of books which will be bought, prized, and kept by the people—a state of affairs much to be desired—is the lack of stability in the book trade, due to the want of an international copyright law."

Mr. Charles Scribner said:

"Such institutions, from the very fact that they multiply the number of readers, tend to increase the number of bookbuyers. They add materially to the number of those who wish to own books which they have become acquainted with in the libraries. It follows that every new library that is started is a good thing. I think that those books that have the largest circulation outside the libraries also have the largest circulation in the libraries. Take 'Little Lord Fauntleroy,' for instance; it has always had a very extensive circulation in the libraries, yet the outside demand from buyers continues undiminished, having doubtless been greatly stimulated by the libraries.

"There is no book of our time more widely read than 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' You can find it in every household almost; yet the libraries continue to supply it to their readers as generously as ever, and its popularity has unquestionably been augmented by these institutions. . . .

"Clergymen, physicians, and the professors in the leading seminaries are among the best bookbuyers, yet almost every book they purchase can be found in the libraries. With the exception, probably, of a certain class of novels, I do not believe any branch of literature suffers from library circulation, as far as the publishers are concerned. We have always regarded the libraries as an aid to our business."

THE RELATION OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY TO INDUSTRIES.

From the Boston Journal, July 3.

IN these days of active effort and continuous discussion for the promotion of manual training, hand-work and tools are apt to be more enthusiastically considered than brain-work and books, yet, as it was said at the opening of the library, books are every man's tools, and even those who work with a trowel in one hand must work with a book in the other. All industries are most successful when pursued scientifically, and scientific methods must always be studied with books, since these contain the results of the best experience. So much dependence is placed upon technical works that it may be said with truth that the industrial competition of the future will be a struggle with brains even more than with hands. The artisan made intelligent by the best reading will be far ahead in the race of life of the laborer who uses his hands mechanically, without an understanding of the methods or purposes of his work.

Although the opening of free public libraries has happily no longer the aspect of novelty, their industrial importance has not received the attention which it deserves. Practical use, especially in manufacturing towns, has conclusively given evidence of the public's estimation of value. Technical works are usually very expensive, quite out of the range of the average purse of the wage-earner. They are accompanied by especial

illustrations, such as plates that are made from original drawings and have no duplicates; they have necessarily a limited circulation and no popular sale. Architectural and mechanical works, books upon mechanics, and engineering treatises are all useful adjuncts to the volumes of a public library and serve the needs of an important class of people. Through these books the library becomes the people's industrial university; it is an institute of technology free to all; an inspirer of the best and most intelligent hand labor.

A GIFT OF AMERICANA.

THE Boston Public Library has recently received a large and very valuable collection of Americana of the latter part of the seventeenth and the first part of the eighteenth centuries as a gift from the widow of John A. Lewis. Mr. Lewis, who was a printer by profession, and a specialist of rare intelligence in American bibliography, had formed a large collection of books relating to American history. The greater part of these, chiefly being found in the Boston Public Library, were sold at public auction by C. F. Libbie & Co., but several hundreds of bound volumes and pamphlets, being the rarest and most valuable part, were reserved from the sale by Mrs. Lewis, and, as has been said, were presented to the public library.

It is impracticable to give an extended list, but some of the more valuable are: Early Poor Richard's Almanack; Almanacks by Benjamin Franklin; pamphlets of William Penn, one of which contains his autograph initials; four works by Richard Mather, twenty-three by Samuel Mather, one by Nathaniel Mather, nearly one hundred by Cotton Mather, seventy by Increase Mather, twenty-six by Thomas Prince, nine by William Cooper, twelve by Thomas Foxcroft, twenty-two by Benjamin Colman, four by Nehemiah Walter, eight by Samuel Willard, and nineteen by John Cotton.

Among the single works perhaps the most valuable are: "Hubbard's Narrative," with the White Hill's map of New England, of which no other perfect copy in New England is known; Samuel Sewall's "Apocalyptic"; Whitbourn's "Newfoundland," 1622; Welde's "Answer," 1644; Hooke's "New England Tears," 1641; John Robinson's "Peoples' Plea," 1618; Samuel Cobbler's "Aggawon," 1647 and 1713; Oakes's "Artillery Election Sermon," 1674; Torrey's "Election Sermon," 1674; Allen's "Election Sermon," 1679; Wise's "The Churches' Quarrel," 1715; "Vindication of the New England Churches," 1717; "Platform and Discipline of the Churches," 1717; Higginson's "Legacy of Peace," 1686; "Testimony of the Quakers," 1733, Bradford Imprint.

The above are only a few of similar rare books, among which are to be found probably the largest collection extant of the rare imprints of John Foster, the first book printer. Many of the works are richly and expensively bound. The trustees of the Public Library have so high an appreciation of this gift that it will be treated as a separate collection, to be known as the John A. Lewis collection of Americana.

American Library Association.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

THE 11th Annual Conference of the American Library Association will be held at the Fabyan House, in the White Mountains, September 9 to 11. There are already indications of an unusually large gathering, and it is fair to assume that the Conference will follow the course of cumulative interest which has marked the successive meetings of the Association.

This meeting, it is hoped, will derive special interest and significance from a larger attendance and a more active participation of trustees than we have ever had before. A number have already signified their intention to be present, and three have promised to contribute papers. There will be a symposium on the subject, "The duties of trustees and their relations to librarians." Three papers on this subject will be read—two by trustees and one by a librarian—and these will undoubtedly call forth an interesting and valuable discussion.

Among the other special features of the program will be a paper by Dr. William T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, on "The public library and the public school," and papers on "The essential and desirable in a public library from the user's point of view," by Prof. James K. Hosmer, of Washington University, and Mr. Paul L. Ford, of Brooklyn.

The usual reports on aids and guides, architecture, cataloging, classification, college libraries, library legislation, and reading for the young, are all in competent hands. There will also be a very valuable report on "Gifts and bequests," and papers on the "Proper lighting of library-rooms," "Classification from the reader's point of view," "How to make a community believe in the free public library," and other topics of interest. The complete program will shortly be printed and distributed.

The place of meeting is one of the most delightful spots in the United States. The climate is invigorating, and the surroundings grand and picturesque. The Fabyan House will furnish excellent accommodations at reduced rates.

The time chosen, Sept. 9-13, is the earliest date when adequate accommodations can be secured for so large a party. It comes appropriately near the close of the vacation season, so that librarians may return home fresh from the Conference, and eager to put into their work the combined enthusiasm of the whole gathering.

TO LIBRARY TRUSTEES.

We extend you a cordial and urgent invitation to attend the meeting. One whole session will be given to papers and discussions directly pertaining to your department of library work, and you cannot fail to find much of interest and profit in all but the most technical features of the program. Your presence will encourage and stimulate your respective librarians and add much to the general success of the Conference by presenting occasionally the other side of the question and illuminating professional discussions, with the clear light of business sense and practical sagacity acquired

in a different field. The natural beauties of the place and the social recreation that will diversify the program offer additional inducements to tired men who seek rest in a change scene and occupation.

But if you cannot attend yourself, don't fail to send your librarian.

He will get new ideas, not only from the papers and discussions in open meeting, but still more from personal conferences with others whose conditions are similar to his, who have solved, or are studying, the very problems that are troubling him. Over and above all this he will get what is more valuable — inspiration. He will return to his work prepared to conquer old difficulties, eager to carry out new plans and full of that enthusiasm that originates, creates and leads ever to higher achievements. Thus informed and inspired, his year's work will be greater in quantity and better in quality.

Look at this matter in a business light. When you send a representative to confer with other men in your line, or on any other business for the house, you don't expect him to pay his own expenses, or to deduct the time from his summer vacation. Treat your librarian in the same way. Send him to the Conference — order him to go — and pay his expenses, as you would those of any other business agent. If he is the right kind of a man (or woman), he will return to the library ten times the cost of his trip. If you want the most made of your funds, if you want the library to produce the best possible results, you can't afford to let your librarian stay away from the meeting of the American Library Association.

TO LIBRARIANS.

"Every man is a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men do of course seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help thereunto." — LORD BACON.

No librarian who has once attended a Conference needs urging to come again. There are few who can say that they ever returned from a meeting without new ideas gained there; while those who received nothing enjoyed a higher pleasure and privilege, that of imparting knowledge to willing recipients. Certainly no librarian ever returned from a meeting of the A. L. A. without a fresh impulse to work and a fuller faith in the noble possibilities of his profession; nor can any librarian have failed to carry away pleasant recollections of the social gatherings, particularly the post-Conference excursions, which have become a regular feature of our meetings.

POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION.

The excursion planned for this year is in some respects more attractive than any previous one. It will consist of a four days' coaching tour of the mountains, visiting all the principal points of interest, and ending with the return trip to Boston, where the delegation and local members of the Association will be the recipients of courtesies. It is shorter and less expensive than former trips, and the banquet with which it closes promises to be a most enjoyable occasion.

To stay away from the meeting of the A. L. A. because he has nothing to gain would be an as-

sumption of self-praise and omniscience that no librarian would be willing to confess; and not to share the results of his experience with his professional brethren and unite with them in efforts to promote the library cause, argue an inherent selfishness that unfits him for a work requiring much altruism for its successful prosecution. If any there be so wise as to need no further knowledge, to him we say, come and give us your wisdom.

— "We come by note, to give and to receive."

The practical results of these Conferences are seen in better library buildings and the beginning of a new era of library architecture, in improved methods of administration, in Poole's Index and other working aids, in the rapid multiplication of libraries, in the elevation of librarianship to the dignity of a profession, and in the spread and development of the public library throughout the Union.

Come, then, and lend a hand in this work. If your trustees will not pay your expenses, pay them yourselves. It will be returned to you with interest sooner or later. You can't afford to stay away, and your trustees will eventually feel that they can't afford to let you stay away.

F. M. CRUNDEN, }
MELVIL DEWEY, } *Standing Committee.*
C. A. CUTTER, }

SUGGESTIONS.

PRES. CRUNDEN has made an abstract of the suggestions which he has received, which is here published, that members may think over the questions and be prepared to discuss and vote upon them.

Reception Committee with badges. (Several offer this suggestion.)

Question box and informal discussion. (From many sources.)

Fixed time for each paper. (Many urge this.)

Wrangling and airing hobbies — against.

Time for committee meetings without depriving members of chance to hear papers and discussions.

Limit paper to 15 mins. (Made by several.)

Quiet room. (Made by several.)

Topics to be selected by committee.

Circular to trustees, not to make junketing and social features so prominent as heretofore.

Short papers and discussions arranged for beforehand.

Meetings of sections.

Topics suggested for papers and discussions. [Adopted as far as practicable. Will require several Conferences to take up all the topics suggested.]

Papers and discussions too high.

Papers and discussions too elementary.

Reference of technical questions to a committee (pretty large one) of experts.

Call "time" on readers and speakers.

Two sessions a day, to begin promptly at time announced — more, if necessary; devote whole time to business of the Conference. Not too many excursions; recreation *after* the Conference.

Fix date in the usual vacation season — July or August. (From two persons.)

Refer important matters to committees before voting upon them.

Libraries to make exhibit at the World's Fair. Section of college libraries.

A. L. A. SONG-BOOK.

MR. CRUNDEN has prepared an A. L. A. song-book (words only), which will be printed for use at the Conference; but he also approves of Mrs. Dewey's suggestion, that members who have a copy of H. R. Waite's *College Songs*, Boston, Oliver Ditson (88 pages, paper covers, by mail 50 cts.), should bring it to the meeting.

Mr. Crunden's address, till three days or possibly a week before the Conference, is 43 Clark Street, Burlington, Vt.

CLOTHING.

MEMBERS should be provided with clothing for both hot and cold weather.

AFFILIATED MEETINGS IN CONNECTION WITH THE A. L. A. AT FABYAN'S, SEPT. 9-13, 1890.

THE program for this year offers greater attractions than at any previous meeting. Beside an unusually strong list of papers and discussions in the daily morning sessions of the A. L. A. proper, the following bodies hold their sessions, open to all interested, on the different afternoons.

1. Association of State Librarians organized at St. Louis in 1889 and representing the state library interests of the country.
2. A. L. A. Publishing Section, which has its first co-operative volume on "Reading for the young," ready to present to the members.
3. College and school librarians for permanent organization as a section of the A. L. A., for the fuller consideration of topics peculiar to libraries of educational institutions.
4. N. Y. Library Association, organized at the University Convocation in Albany, July 11, 1890, for promoting the library interests of N. Y. state.
5. New Hampshire (and possibly other States) it is expected will organize a state association to promote local library interests, as planned by the New Yorkers.

An invitation is being sent to every one known to be specially interested in libraries in N. Y., urging attendance on this meeting, which combines a most enjoyable trip to the heart of our most famous eastern mountain resort, with an unusually attractive program of papers, discussions and social features.

Fuller announcements are now printing, and readers of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* who wish to help to make the most successful meeting yet held are urged to send for enough copies to supply all their friends who are at all likely to come. Beside the above open meetings, the four classes of the Library School hold a reunion, and

the new Physical Culture Club (limited to ladies of the School) holds a meeting.

Names already sent in indicate the largest meeting yet held. It is very desirable that those wishing to be sure of rooms at headquarters should send their names at once to the Library Bureau, where, as in previous years, all travelling arrangements are being made.

MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary.*

A LIVE A. L. A. LIBRARY.

It is proposed to try at the coming conference a new social feature, to be known as the "Live circulating library." Further details will be given in the program. An idea of this new kind of library may be gained from a description of the one held in Albany, June 20, by the Library School Physical Culture Club. The young ladies of the club invited the gentlemen of the School and library friends. Miss Bunnell, the librarian of the club, issued reader's cards to the guests, who, summoning a page, called for one of the animated books from the back parlor, which served as stack-room, and was occupied by ladies in costumes, representing well-known books. Rule.—Books can be kept five minutes for consultation. The reader in the meantime tries by study of the costume and conversation to guess what book is represented. If he has not guessed at the end of the time, the overdue book is called in. Two prizes were offered, one for the reader recording correctly on his library card the most titles of books drawn, and one for the "book" appearing in the best costume. To illustrate: One young lady wore an apron made of a page of that day's *New York Tribune*, trimmed with a fringe made of strips of the paper cut so as to show the date. A kind of frill was fastened across the front of the waist made of the heading. All this was interpreted as "The last of the tribunes." Another wore a silk dress which all had seen before, with no decoration whatever. She was so simply dressed that it was difficult to interpret the familiar Black's "In silk attire." Another had a large bouquet of fleur-de-lis, known as flag, on the front of her dress, with two of the flowers in her hair. She proved to be "Under two flags."

These few from the score of illustrations show the nature of the new kind of literature. The size of the A. L. A. party will require modifications of some of the most enjoyable and elaborate details worked out at the School, but in turn will give scope for many new features. The essential thing is only that each one willing to share in the evening's amusement bring some costume, however simple, which will fairly represent some well-known book.

M. D.

Association of State Librarians.

PROCEEDINGS OF FIRST MEETING.

SOUTHERN HOTEL, ST. LOUIS, May 8, 1889.

THE first Conference of State Librarians was called to order at 1 p.m. by Mr. T. H. Wallis, of California, 29 libraries being represented by their librarians or authorized proxies as follows:

California, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin were represented by their state librarians.

Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Dakota, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont and Wyoming were not represented.

All the other states and territories were represented by proxies, as in many cases another librarian of the same city or some other person thoroughly familiar with the work of the library was authorized to represent it and to vote in place of the state librarian.

Mrs. M. H. Miller, of Iowa, was called to the chair.

On motion of Mr. Wallis, Mr. Melvil Dewey, of New York, was elected temporary president and Mrs. Miller secretary.

Mr. Wallis stated the objects of the meeting. After general informal discussion it was

Voted, That a committee be appointed to draft a plan of organization.

Voted, That persons holding proxies be recognized as representing the state librarians giving them.

Voted, That a committee be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the objects of the association.

The President appointed as the committee on organization the representatives of the states of Nebraska, Pennsylvania and Minnesota, and as the committee on resolutions the representatives of the states of California, Michigan and Tennessee.

The conference then took a recess till 5 p.m.

The conference reassembled at 5 p.m., and the committee on organization reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That we form an organization, to be called the Association of State Librarians.

Resolved, That the regular meetings of the association shall be held in connection with the meetings of the American Library Association.

Resolved, That the officers of this association shall be a president, secretary and an executive board of five, of which the president and secre-

tary shall be ex-officio members; and said committee shall have power to add to their number.

Resolved, That the American Library Association be requested to recognize this body as a section of their organization, in conformity with the resolution passed by that Association Sept. 2, 1887.

Resolved, That the executive board be instructed to consider the expediency of inviting the librarians of all law libraries to become members of this association, and to report at our next meeting.

The committee on resolutions reported the following, which, after discussion and amendment, were adopted, as follows:

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIANS.

On State Legislation.

WHEREAS, The laws governing the libraries of the several states and territories have been formed for each without regard to any other, or to any uniformity among them, and this diversity of legislation has resulted in many ways in great loss to said libraries, and has greatly retarded their growth and prevented the increase of their usefulness; and

WHEREAS, The state of California has, by resolution of her legislature, instructed her librarian to call a conference of the librarians of the several states and territories for the purpose of securing the adoption of an approximately uniform system of laws, rules and regulations for the government and control of such libraries:

NOW THEREFORE, we, the librarians of the several states and territories, in such conference assembled, do resolve:

1. That each state should provide for the maintenance of a state library, by creating a fund that should be continuous and not dependent upon annual or biennial appropriations.

2. That the salary of each state librarian should be made proportionate to the salaries paid other state officers in the same state, and that tenure of office should be made dependent on efficiency solely, and not on changes of administration, political or otherwise.

3. That each state should provide by law for the speedy transmission, under the direction of the state librarian, to all state libraries and to foreign governments, of all public documents, reports, laws, transactions, etc., published by authority, and that these be addressed directly to the libraries.

4. That each state should provide by law —

(a) That all books published under its authority be properly indexed by a uniform topical alphabet, preserving the same heads of reference from year to year;

(b) That the title-pages of all statutes and journals of the legislature show the dates of convening and final adjournment of the sessions;

(c) That law reports give the extreme dates of the decisions on the title-pages, and the date of the rendition of each decision above the title of each case;

(d) That each volume of law reports contain a

table of cases, plaintiff and defendant, and *vice versa* :

(c) That the name of the state, with year and number of the legislature where practicable, be lettered on the back of every volume.

5. That each state provide for the proper cataloguing and indexing, under the direction of the state librarian, of all publications that have been or may be issued by authority of the state.

6. That each state provide for the preparation and publication of a list of the sessions of its legislature, from the first session to date, stating the time of the convening and adjourning of each session.

7. That each state provide for the proper exchange and disposition of duplicate books.

8. That the governor of each state and territory be respectfully requested to submit the foregoing resolutions to its legislature, and to urge upon it the adoption of the laws necessary to carry out the reforms therein recommended, and also to impress upon it the propriety of adopting memorials to congress in favor of the federal legislation hereinafter suggested.

On National Legislation.

WHEREAS, The national government has thus far not given to the state and territorial libraries the aid and assistance which it is desirable should be given; therefore be it

Resolved, That congress should provide—

1. For free transportation by mail of books and all printed matter between state libraries.

2. By international arrangement, for free transportation of books and other printed matter between state libraries and departments of foreign governments.

3. For a lower rate of postage on books.

4. That the privilege now enjoyed by the library of congress and by societies, colleges and schools, in the exemption of books from import duties should be extended to state libraries.

Resolved, That the president of the United States be respectfully requested to bring these matters to the attention of congress.

General Resolutions.

WHEREAS, State libraries are important factors in the educational systems of the several states and territories, be it

Resolved, That the several state superintendents of public instruction and the National Bureau of Education be requested to unite with us in bringing about the above-named reforms.

WHEREAS, The American Library Association has by the organized efforts of its members accomplished so much for the good of libraries and will appreciate so fully the objects we seek to obtain,

Resolved, That we ask their endorsement of our efforts to increase the efficiency of our libraries, and their hearty co-operation in obtaining action to that end; and

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft an address setting forth in full the reasons and necessity for the adoption of the reforms we have recommended, and that said address be made a part of our action, and that said committee communicate these resolutions and address

to all persons whose aid we seek in accomplishing our objects.

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to use every effort with our several state officers, legislators and members of congress, and with all who can help us, to secure their active assistance in the accomplishment of these reforms.

The meeting then took a recess till May 10, at 8:30 a.m.

The conference reassembled at 8:30 a.m., May 10, and the committee on organization reported the following constitution, which, after extended discussion, section by section, was adopted.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIANS.

SECTION 1. This organization shall be called the Association of State Librarians.

SEC. 2. The objects of this organization are to form a closer acquaintance among state librarians; to facilitate an interchange of ideas upon subjects of common interest; to enlarge the sphere of usefulness of state libraries; to perfect the system of exchange of official publications; and to secure uniformity of laws affecting these matters.

SEC. 3. Any person connected with libraries supported by national, state or territorial authority may become a member of this association by signing the constitution. The executive board shall have power to admit others than those named to membership who in their judgment may be of benefit to the organization.

SEC. 4. The officers of this association shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary who shall act as treasurer, and an executive board of five, including the above officers. These officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual meetings and shall continue in office until their successors are chosen.

SEC. 5. The regular meetings shall be held in connection with the American Library Association. Special meetings may be called by the executive board.

SEC. 6. This constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote at any meeting, *provided* each member be notified thirty days prior thereto of the proposed amendment; and provided that the votes of absent members may be received in writing.

SEC. 7. No assessments shall be made exceeding two dollars annually.

Officers were elected as follows :

President, Melvil Dewey, Director of New York State Library.

Vice President, W. H. H. Taylor, State Librarian of Minnesota.

Secretary and Treasurer, J. P. Dunn, Jr., State Librarian of Indiana.

Executive Board, the above officers and T. H. Wallis, State Librarian of California, and Wm. H. Egle, State Librarian of Pennsylvania.

All these being present accepted the respective offices.

On the report that the American Library Association had admitted the new Association of State Librarians as a section in its organization, and had endorsed the resolution expressive of the purposes of organization passed by this body on May 8, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this association be tendered to the American Library Association for the invitation to join their organization, and for courtesies extended at this meeting.

Resolved, That the LIBRARY JOURNAL be made the official organ of this Association.

The following resolutions were also presented and adopted:

WHEREAS, We desire to place upon our records a testimonial of our warm and just appreciation of those through whose untiring efforts this association has been instituted, be it, by the state and territorial librarians in conference assembled in the city of St. Louis, this 10th day of May, 1889,

Resolved, 1. That the thanks of the Association of State Librarians be tendered to Talbot H. Wallis, State Librarian of California, for his enthusiastic labors toward effecting an organization of state librarians.

2. That we desire to express our hearty admiration to Messrs. A. C. Freeman, I. S. Belcher and A. G. Booth, Trustees of the California State Library, for their earnest support and the ready assistance given their state librarian in his zealous efforts to secure this result.

3. That the legislature of the state of California of 1887, for their co-operation in this matter, deserve and are hereby tendered our sincere thanks.

WHEREAS, The organization and work of this association have been materially forwarded by the daily newspapers of St. Louis and the Sacramento *Daily Union*, of California,

Resolved, That the thanks of the association be extended to said papers.

Recess was taken till 5 p.m.

The conference reassembled at 5 p.m., and the executive board reported the following named persons, all of whom were present, elected to membership: Chas. C. Pickett, of the Chicago Law Institute; John M. Gould, of the Social Law Library of Boston; C. C. Soule, of Boston; T. L. Cole, of St. Louis; and Thorvald Solberg, of Washington, D. C.

An extended informal discussion of various matters connected with state libraries followed, at the close of which it was

Voted, That a committee be appointed to examine into the systems of exchange of official publications by the several states, and to take such action as may appear advisable towards securing better systems.

The conference then took a recess till Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m.

The conference reassembled at 2 p.m., May 11, and devoted the afternoon to informal discus-

sion of various questions proposed by librarians present, and relating to state library work.

On motion, C. C. Soule and two persons to be selected by him were appointed a committee to investigate the question of binding and report at the next annual meeting.

On motion, T. L. Cole was appointed a committee to collect information as to the condition of the several state and law libraries and report at the next annual meeting.

On motion, Mr. J. P. Dunn and two persons to be selected by him were appointed a committee to investigate and report on the systems of exchange of documents of the several states, and to take such action as may seem advisable towards securing better systems.

The Association then adjourned to meet in connection with the next annual meeting of the American Library Association.

J. P. DUNN, JR., *Secretary*.

[The first session of the 1890 White Mountains meeting is planned for Tuesday p.m., Sept. 10, at Fabyan's, N. H. Detailed programs will be sent on application to Melvil Dewey, N. Y. State Library, Albany, N. Y.]

TO STATE LIBRARIANS

Who have not yet become members of the A. S. L.

WE submit to you with the resolutions resulting from the interesting and profitable discussions, the constitution adopted by the Association of State Librarians, at its St. Louis conference in May, 1889. 27 states were represented by their librarians, or by proxies, and there was abundant evidence of an important work before the association, with both disposition and ability to do it.

The discussions at the various sessions brought out many points on which concerted action was greatly needed, and several efficient committees were appointed to formulate plans to be reported at our next meeting, which is to be held Sept. 9-13, 1890, at Fabyan's, in the White Mountains, in connection with the meeting of the American Library Association.

We have printed in handsome form an address embodying some of the results of the first meeting. This has been sent to the Governor and Supt. of Public Instruction of each state, and is to be sent by each state librarian to any other persons in positions to help us attain the desired ends. How many copies can you thus use to advantage?

Many persons not actually engaged in state libraries are deeply interested in their improvement, and would accept an invitation to member-

ship. Can you not strengthen the association, both by joining it yourself and by bringing in some such members?

The association is not founded to advance the pet doctrines or views of any person or set, but the object of all is by all proper and practicable means to advance the best interests of state libraries. The constitution is carefully framed to leave no earnest state librarian or assistant an excuse for not joining the association. The possible dues are trifling, and in attending meetings railroads and hotels give liberal reductions from regular rates. Such expenses should, of course, be paid by the state, since the business of the association is official, and of direct public service; but the professional value of the conference is so great that every librarian should come, at personal expense if necessary.

To make the program as practically useful as possible, will you not suggest to the president by an early mail any topics that you would specially like to have discussed at this meeting?

If to be present, please send early word. If not, please send in writing your views as to the association, so that we may know who are in active sympathy with our work.

It is highly desirable that your library be represented. If it is impossible for you to be present, will you not authorize some one who can come to act as your proxy in the discussions?

I am profoundly convinced, after 18 years' study of general library interests, that the greatest future development lies before the state libraries. They have the largest and wealthiest constituency, the greatest possibilities for exchanges and gifts, and infinitely the largest opportunities for helpfulness to the library and educational interests of each state. We speak not of what has been but of what may be, and what in some states is clearly soon to be. The Association of State Librarians, however, is as much a place for those who wish to improve the old field as for those who aim to broaden the scope.

Is it not both privilege and duty to dignify and strengthen the institutions over which we have been called to preside?

MELVIL DEWEY, *President.*

N. Y. STATE LIBRARY, Aug. 7, 1890.

THE PRESS AND THE A. S. L.

THE publication of the resolutions resulting from the first conference brought only commendation and indorsement from those interested in such matters. Governors, state superintendents of public instruction and others high in authority and influence have promised their active co-operation in securing the ends aimed at. From an

editorial in the *Springfield Republican* of May 13, 1890, we extract:

"These objects seem every way desirable. The address says that 'state libraries are important factors in the educational systems of states and territories;' whether or not they are so generally, is rather uncertain, but that they might be so it is not difficult to understand. It is well said:

"A state library should not only be a complete reference library for all branches of the government, executive, judicial and legislative, and the repository of all materials for local history and biography, but it should also contain and furnish abundant facilities for using all desirable books of information relating to special industries and pursuits of the state, or calculated to lead to the introduction of industries and pursuits suited to it, but hitherto neglected. In short, it should be fitted to serve all interests of the state, by infusing into their conduct the highest intelligence and skill."

"To the end that this ideal be attained, state superintendents of public instruction are requested to further the reforms desired, and the co-operation of all teachers, students of history and economics, and the scholars and newspapers may well be given to this cause."

From a similar editorial in the *Tribune* of March 28, 1890, we extract:

"The Association of State Librarians has issued a circular calling the attention of whom it may concern to the resolutions which were adopted by the association at the St. Louis conference. These resolutions attest that the association is in capable hands, and therefore is sure to accomplish much good work in its important and ever-widening field. Only let a sound policy prevail in its management, and a state library must necessarily prove a most valuable agency for the advancement of the common weal by extending the area of knowledge. But experience has shown how easy it is to render a library of small practical worth by developing it unwisely, by imposing ill-considered restrictions upon its use, or by committing some related mistake. Alive to these considerations, the leading state librarians of the country formed this association. Their objects were, as they themselves state them, to promote in the public mind an appreciation of the proper scope and dignity of the libraries, to secure uniform laws in the different states for library government, and for the exchange of public documents. It needs no argument to prove that an organization whose aims are thus sensible and unselfish is deserving of the heartiest general encouragement. The sole purpose of these intelligent public servants is to make the institutions over which they preside all that wisdom reinforced by experience suggests that they should be."

"The resolutions in question are not calculated to provoke debate. If they are not speedily adopted unanimously by the legislature, of all the states and the necessary laws passed in accordance with them, the delay will only prove, what has been so often proved before, that some much-needed reforms take time."

"The governor of each state was requested by the conference to submit the first set of resolutions to the legislature, and to urge upon it 'the adoption of the laws necessary to carry out the reforms therein recommended, and also to impress upon it the propriety of adopting memorials to congress in favor of the (necessary) Federal legislation.'"

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

THE LIBRARY for July, 1890. *Contents:*

The Monastic Scriptorium, 1; by John Taylor.
Thomas Taylor, the Platonist, 1; by William E. A. Axon.
Annals of Scottish Printing.
Provocative to a Discussion on Library Statistics.
The Library Chronicle.

DAVIS, James W., *F.S.A.* The Sunday opening of public libraries. (Pages 9-18 of the *Westminster rev.*, July.)

RÔLE des bibliothèques, Du, et de l'extension qu'elles pourraient prendre. Paris, Picard, 1890. 27 p. 8°.

From the *Compte rendu de l'Acad. des Sciences*.

SPECIAL.

Boston Athenæum. The books, about 167,000 in number, Jan. 1, 1890, were found to be divided as follows: Language and Literature 24.5%, Historical sciences 22.5, general and miscellaneous (including general periodicals and newspapers) 18.5, social sciences 10.5, philosophy and religion 8.5, useful arts 6.25, natural sciences 4.5, fine arts 4.25, special collections .5.

Bowdoin College L. Added 1731; total 41,814; issued 7815. The Rev. Elias Bond has given \$6000 for a book fund and Mrs. C. A. L. Sibley has increased her late husband's [J: L. Sibley's] bequest for the same purpose, so that it amounts to \$5000.

Shelving for 15,000 v. has been made at a cost of \$600. The librarian calls for a fire-proof stack to hold 50,000 v. at a cost of \$5000.

Bridgeport (Conn.) P. L. (9th rpt.) Added 1343; total 18,212; home use 85,860; library use 17,680; Sunday attendance 11,722. "The teachers and pupils of the public schools have made greatly increased demands upon the educational resources of the institution, while no library of equal size exceeds it in the number and variety of the researches pursued in it by students in general. On the other hand, the library has a constant influx of new members, who, like all inexperienced patrons of public libraries, chiefly desire light reading.

"During the winter the experiment was tried of placing all the periodicals in the reading-room where the public could use them at pleasure without making out a call slip or asking an attendant for them. A large case of the most useful reference-books was also arranged in the open reading-room. The result is that both magazines and reference-books probably find ten readers now where they had one before, although it is obviously impossible to collect exact statistics of the present use. Not a single book or magazine has been lost through this innovation, and it is also gratifying to note that out of the 103,540 volumes of whose circulation it was possible to keep record, not a single volume was stolen or unaccounted for."

Buffalo L. (54th rpt.) Added 2630 (1890 bought for \$2488); total 63,563; issued 102,600.

"Notwithstanding the slenderness of the offering of new books to our readers, the circulation of the library increases considerably, and the consultation of books in its reading-room extends still more largely. The quality of reading, moreover, shows a continuous slow improvement, distinctly marked, though not strikingly so.

"The use of books in the library reading-rooms grows more rapidly than the circulation of books for home use. To a very large extent, the wants of those who come to 'The Study' are satisfied by the cyclopædias, dictionaries, year-books, handbooks, statistical works, anthologies, etc., about 1000 volumes in number, which are placed there on open shelves, and to which readers may help themselves. No account of the use of these books is kept, but it cannot be less than five times as great as the use of other books brought to 'The Study' on call, which numbered last year 18,183 volumes.

"With pleasure I am able to say that our losses from the freely exposed books in 'The Study' have been slight this last year, numbering only five volumes, and none of those very valuable. The losses of the previous year rose to 24 volumes, but they were mostly due, I am confident, to some single thief, whose depredations were carried on during a single month. Of other books, not novels, our annual checking on the 1st of January showed 19 volumes which are not yet accounted for."

The retiring President says:

"The suggestion that membership in perpetuity should be established has also been carried out, by which any person who shall pay to the association the sum of \$100, or any life member who shall pay an additional sum of \$50 shall be entitled to membership in perpetuity—a continuing membership passing to one's heirs at law or next of kin forever.

"It is to be regretted that the Curators, to whom was referred with power the recommendation to complete the finding list by the publication of the last part, deemed the purchase of new fiction more advantageous than affording facilities to utilize the books on hand; at least we may be permitted to so conclude, as the purchase of fiction continued while the completion of the finding list was delayed on the score of economy. One is reminded of the book enthusiast who packed his books in barrels, satisfied with possession, but thoughtless of availability. Better to have a few books and know whereof they treat and where they may be found, than to revel in mountains of print."

Buffalo L. An important change has been made in the arrangements of the reading-rooms at the Buffalo Library. Hitherto the manner of distributing the various kinds of reading-matter to the public has not been perfectly systematized, and moreover there was a constant and increasing demand for works of a technical and educational character. The newspapers were read indiscriminately and without a due regard to their proper conservation. The whole matter has been carefully discussed and as a result of the discussions

the changes referred to have been made. The different periodicals are now distributed in the open cases and are comprised under the heads: Literary, Bibliographical, Political, Commercial and Economic, Scientific and Industrial, Juvenile, Religious and Philanthropic, Historical and Geographical, Educational, Art, Caricature, Amusement, etc. The cases are numbered and lists posted at convenient places about the rooms indicate the number of the case wherein any particular periodical may be found, except a few which can only be obtained upon application to the attendant. Cases are provided for some of the newspapers, but most of them are now placed on files convenient for reference, but quite inconvenient for surreptitious removal."

California State L., San Francisco. At the May meeting of the Board of Trustees the board rejected a number of claims presented by booksellers in this city, for books ordered by Talbot H. Wallis, the late librarian, claiming that the purchase of such books had not been duly authorized. Afterwards W. Doxey, one of the claimants, appeared before the board and presented affidavits showing that he had acted in good faith in the matter, and, believing that Wallis was duly authorized to give the order, had imported a large number of books on botany, entomology, and kindred subjects, specially for the library. He represented that the books had been received by the library and stamped and labelled, so as to greatly reduce their value for sale to other persons or libraries. Inasmuch, however, as the board seemed disinclined to recognize the actions of the late librarian Wallis, Mr. Doxey appealed to the board to treat the matter as a new transaction, to examine the books and the prices charged therefor, and to determine for themselves whether or not the books were needed for use in the library, and the prices charged therefor reasonable. Mr. Doxey at the same time waiving all legal claims against the library, and offering to accept the determination of the board in the matter as final.

The board appointed R. D. Stevens, W. S. Green, and the librarian, W. D. Perkins, a committee to examine the claims, and also of all other claimants who should offer to deal with the board in the same spirit.

The committee reported that a number of the claimants had presented their claims for adjustment, in accordance with the terms of the foregoing resolution; that they had examined the books and their prices, and found that the books were all needed and would make valuable additions to the library, and the prices were reasonable. The claims were ordered paid.

The trustees expressed themselves greatly pleased with the changes and improvements made by the librarian, W. D. Perkins, during the short time he has been in office, since April 1. In the law department and in the magazine-room of the library the stairs leading to the galleries, which formerly ran in front of the windows and obscured the light, have been moved to the opposite side, and the galleries themselves have been carpeted, so as to deaden the noise of the footsteps of persons walking on them, which, under the old arrangement, was a constant source of annoyance to persons who use the library for

purposes of study. Many improvements have been made in the newspaper file room. Formerly the newspaper files were very incomplete, but now arrangements have been made to secure files not only of all the San Francisco and Sacramento papers, but of representative newspapers from every country in the State. One very ingenious device is the invention of W. S. Leake, the assistant librarian. It is a monster cabinet for the preservation of the maps in the library, of which there are several hundred. Formerly they were hung on spring rollers, but were not easy of access, and it was very difficult to find any particular map when wanted. Now the maps are all numbered, catalogued, and kept separately in pigeon-holes in the cabinet, the top of which forms a table of great size, on which an eighteen-foot map may be spread if necessary in order to take notes or make a tracing. Curtains have also been hung on the sides of the galleries, for the lack of which protection lady visitors have heretofore been practically debarred access to some of the most important sections of the library. The catalogue of the library, made under the last administration, is only an author's catalogue, in which the names of authors are arranged alphabetically. The library is sadly in need of a subject catalogue, and to supply this need the librarian and his assistant are about to classify the books by subjects on the shelves in each division instead of maintaining their present arrangement in alphabetical order. This will afford the student an opportunity to find what he wants on any particular subject, irrespective of the name of the author.

Columbia College L. The Avery Architectural Library, in memory of the late H. Ogden Avery, the architect, who died April 30, was founded by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Avery. This splendid gift includes, first, the library formed by the late H. O. Avery, consisting of over 200 volumes, relating to architecture, archæology, and the decorative arts; volumes of photographs, etc., with a selection from his original drawings made during his seven years' study at the École des Beaux Arts, Paris, and during his later professional career; second, \$15,000 in money to pay for purchases of books in the same lines up to January 1, 1891; third, a second cash payment July 1, 1890, of \$15,000 as an endowment fund to provide for binding, repairs, etc., also for the annual purchase of publications, new and old. The purchases are to be made by a commission of three persons, consisting of the librarian of Columbia College, the head of the architectural department of the School of Mines, and Mr. Russell Sturgis.

The books are to be kept together in a separate room or alcove, to be known as the Avery Architectural Library, and are to be used as a reference library only. A permanent tablet will record the foundation of the library in memory of H. Ogden Avery.

A separate catalogue will be printed from time to time for free distribution to architects, students of art, or institutions throughout the country to whom this branch of Columbia College library may be useful.

The need for such a library is manifest; for,

as a usual thing, even successful practising architects have not the means to purchase the rare and costly books now to be gathered together, nor do they have the room to place and use the volumes — often very large folios.

On July 3 the books were transferred to the college library, a separate fireproof building in the centre of the court. With them were placed a number of illustrated books from the library of S. P. Avery, including a set of the rare and valuable "Annali, Bullettino, and Monumenti" of the German Institute, 1829-85, in all 99 volumes, expressly purchased at a cost of \$500. Thus about 400 volumes are now in the library, and before the end of the year considerably over \$30,000 will be represented in the collection.

Columbus (O.) P. L. The Board of Education has bought the Town Street Church, and will fit it up for offices for the Board and for the Public Library.

Danvers (Mass.) P. L. The gothic building on Sylvan Street occupied and owned by the Peabody Institute, and which was given to the town by George Peabody, the philanthropist, together with an endowment of \$40,000 for its support, was burned July 2, noon, together with a portion of the public library. The building was of wood, and built in 1866-69 at a cost of \$50,000. The fire originated from a naphtha lamp with which painters were burning off the old paint preparatory to putting on another coat. Owing to a delay in giving the alarm, the flames were well under way before the fire department arrived, and then it was found that the hydrant streams would not reach the top of the building. Work was at once begun in saving the contents of the public library. The first article removed was the fine oil painting of the donor, George Peabody, which was saved without a scratch. Most of the books were taken out, but those on the upper shelves, including most of the department of local history, in which the library was very rich, were destroyed. The loss is estimated at about \$30,000, and there is an insurance of that amount on the building. The loss to the library cannot be definitely stated until the trustees shall have a chance to take an account of the books which were saved and removed to the Town Hall. The building will probably be replaced at once with a brick structure.

Duluth (Minn.) P. L. "Olin S. Davis, of Topeka, Kan., arrived May 8, and consulted the board. Mr. Davis made a most favorable impression. He is in favor of going slow in the matter of selecting the books, and argues that, although this would require more time and work, as well as patience, it would in the end pay best."

Gloversville (N. Y.) P. L. (10th rpt.) Added 321; total 8762; home use 39,379; library use 2785. "A notice in the city papers invited all those willing to receive instruction in book-keeping, practical arithmetic, penmanship and German, to leave their names at the library. Classes in these branches were formed, with some of the teachers of the public schools and the librarian as instructors, without pay. From Oct. 15 to May 15, 106 persons attended. The library-

room and the librarian's office were used as classrooms, and this new department was opened and maintained without any additional expenditure. There is good reason to suppose that the increase in the number of visitors in the reading-room, as well as the growth in demand for books, can be traced back to the influence of the evening school."

Hightstown, N. J. Longstreet Library, the handsome memorial gift of Jonathan and M. A. Longstreet to the Peddie Institute, was formally dedicated June 17. A throng of people attended the exercises. The library cost \$12,000. The shelves will hold 10,000 volumes, and now contain about 3500 volumes, principally the gifts of Mr. Longstreet, W. Bucknell, patron of Bucknell University, and Dr. H. F. Smith, of the Peddie Institute.

Lawrence (Mass.) P. L. (18th rpt.) Added 1138; total 32,025; issued 99,394, a decline of over 5000. "If people do not take books from the library it must be because they cannot get the books they want. Among our readers there is a strong preference shown for sensational fiction, especially for novels by American writers, like Mrs. Southworth and Mrs. Holmes. When the supply of that kind of fiction was sufficient to meet the demand, the circulation was much greater than it is now. There are at present few if any of Mrs. Southworth's works left in the library, and the supply of Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Holmes, and similar authors, is greatly diminished. 'The cards of borrowers are full of numbers of books no longer upon the shelves, and after several attempts to get the works of their favorite authors the card-owners become disgusted and do not visit the library very soon again. There are, it is true, other books since added healthier in tone and fully as interesting as those which have been worn out and discarded, but the majority of readers do not know of their existence. Whatever may be said of the advantages of a card catalogue, the average library visitor does not know how to use it. The want of printed lists is deeply felt."

"Complaints of this kind are often made: 'It is no use to try for new books, for only the favored few get them.' 'A book gets into a certain clique and an outsider has no chance,' etc. There is no law of the library which prevents a person from accompanying a friend when he returns a book, and asking for that same book as soon as it has been discharged.' A reader can send a book back to the library by any messenger, so that if A wishes a book that B has out, he offers to return it for B, and as soon as it has been returned, he asks for it on his own account. That practice can be broken up by retaining books a certain length of time after they are returned before re-issuing them. Some libraries retain books 24 hours, but the objection to this is that a considerable number of works in general demand are continually kept out of circulation, and the labor of attendants, especially on Saturday nights, much increased. It is the custom in some places to reserve books for readers, the librarian keeping a list of applicants for new works. Of course there will be many applicants for popular books, and

those first on the list must have the first reading of them. If the names and addresses of all persons wishing for some new book were kept by the librarian, the book when returned might be reserved for the first applicant on the list, for a limited time, and notice sent to the person by postal card. In such case it would be well for the applicant to provide the postal card and write his proper address upon it. Whether this system would work any better than the one now employed is doubtful. Those who visit the library frequently would get the first reading of all the new books, while if the list is long those near the end would have to wait as long as they do now. Of the two plans it would be better to retain the books for a few hours after they are returned, and then deliver them to the first applicant. Unless more duplicates of popular books are purchased than now, there will always be some who will have to wait a year or two before reading them.

Last summer, the trustees of the White Fund made a proposition to the city to erect a building at a cost of about \$40,000, provided the city would accept the same for 30 years, paying an annual rent of \$1600 for 10 years, and keeping the building in good repair. Proposals were issued to architects. The designs by G. C. Adams, of this city, were unanimously accepted. The proposed building will have an exterior of brown stone, and will occupy a space of about 11,000 square feet, having a frontage of 89 feet on Haverhill Street, and being 124 feet deep. The book-stacks will be in three tiers, and it is estimated will hold 75,000 volumes. This will give shelf-room for at least 30 years, even if the annual increase is greater than it is at present. It is to be expected that the circulation will decrease at first, as the new building will not be as convenient of access as the present one."

Meadville (Pa.) Theological School. The new library building was dedicated June 4. It is a substantial, fireproof structure of stone and brick, and, in addition to its usefulness, is an architectural ornament to the school grounds. There are four good-sized, well-lighted and well-ventilated rooms, three of which will be used as class rooms, the fourth being used as a reference-room. The book room, or library proper, occupies a wing of the building and is thoroughly fireproof. It has room for 40,000 volumes. The entire interior of the building is beautifully finished in natural pine and is heated by steam. It was erected at a cost of only \$6000. Speaking of this, the Rev. Grindall Reynolds remarked that those who come from less economical regions don't understand how it is done. The building was dedicated as "Huidekoper Hall" in honor of Miss E. G. Huidekoper, Prof. F. Huidekoper and Alfred Huidekoper, Esq., to whose generosity the erection of the building is chiefly due. The plans were furnished gratuitously by Mr. G. Tilden, of the firm of Rotch & Tilden, Boston, through the interest in the school of his father, Rev. W. P. Tilden.

Menomonie, Wis. The Mabel Tainter Memorial Building was dedicated July 3. It was erected by Capt. and Mrs. Andrew Tainter, in memory

of their daughter Mabel, who died suddenly four years ago.

It is constructed of Dunnville sandstone, dressed with rock face, and is Romanesque in style. It has a south frontage of 80 feet and a depth of 90 feet. The structure is two stories high, with a deep basement. High up across the front, in large stone letters, with a carved vine intertwining, are the words "Mabel Tainter Memorial." On either side, at the top of the massive arch which spans the main entrance, is carved a pennant with the figures "18" on the left and "89" on the right. The ascent to the platform in front of the entrance is by stone steps on either side, between which, and projecting a little from the platform, is the form of a boat's bow carved in stone, upon which is a square stone pedestal surmounted by a bronze statue. The boat is designed to commemorate the early days when Mr. Tainter was a river captain.

A large memorial window of four separate sections of beautiful design adorns the front to the west of the arch, on which the name, date of birth and of death of the lamented young woman are inscribed. A double memorial window of unique and beautiful design, for Mr. and Mrs. Tainter, occupies the west.

Some of the floors are marble, others wood. The stairway has marble steps and wainscoting, and brass railing. The wood finishings are of mahogany, cherry and oak; the latter predominating. The basement floor is divided as follows: Kitchen, amusement-room, club-room and billiard-room, closets and halls, in addition to space required for heating.

The first floor has a reception-room, a fireproof library-room, a reading-room, and an auditorium with stage and stage furnishings of the most modern design, there being no less than eleven complete changes of scenery. The seating is with opera chairs of elegance and comfort. The auditorium is designed primarily for the use of the Unitarian Society, for their Sunday services.

The second floor contains the pastor's study, the gallery to the auditorium and apartments to be used as art and historical rooms.

The heating is by hot water and the lighting by electricity. The seating capacity of the auditorium is about 500.

The building was designed by Architect L. S. Buffington, of Minneapolis.

The Mabel Tainter Literary, Library, and Educational Society is incorporated for

1. The establishment and maintenance and use of an auditorium and assembly-room for the delivery of lectures, and for debates, for practice in declamation and public speaking on literary, scientific, historical, social and moral topics, and for rational and liberal religious instruction, musical concerts or dramatic representations.

2. The establishment, maintenance and use of a free library and reading-room.

3. For the purpose of promoting general interest in any lawful games or modes of amusement.

4. For the purpose of maintaining and using in connection therewith a young men's club-room, parlors, assembly-room, and other appurtenances in aid of said purposes.

5. To receive, take and accept, by grant, devise, bequest, transfer or gift, in any form, and to hold any and all property, real, personal or mixed, for the uses and purposes aforesaid.

The first President is Lewis S. Tainter.

Capt. and Mrs. Tainter have long been residents of Menomonie. The captain is a member of The Knapp, Stout & Co. Company, a very wealthy lumber corporation. He is several times a millionaire.

N. Y. State L. (72d rpt.) Added 1945; total 140,136. The report speaks of the unfinished condition of the building, of the 100,000 volumes in the basement slowly being ruined by heat, of the new arrangements for buying books, etc., reprints the votes of the Regents regarding the State Library, and asks for a more satisfactory law for founding new libraries and for a wiser use of the \$50,000 a year granted by the State for the district public libraries. A report on the Library School follows, the main facts of which have already appeared in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*. The Director says: "It has been found that the State Library in its organization and appointments, rooms and other facilities is much better adapted to this work than was the Columbia College Library. It has also been made clear that the services of the pupils can be used in our library to excellent advantage, so that it will be practicable to carry on the school successfully without asking any large appropriation for its support. With the great amount of cataloguing and other work to be done in our great library, this apprentice help can be used here to much better advantage than at Columbia, where, nevertheless, the school proved a marked success without a dollar from the treasury for its support."

Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. (34th rpt., ending Nov. 1889.) Added 993; total 25,604. A bequest of \$1000 was received from Abram Williams, of Boston. The new librarian, Mr. J. D. Parsons, has introduced a new charging system.

Oakland (Cal.) F. L. Added 698; total 14,888; borrowers 10,137.

"It is true here, as well as in other libraries, that about 70 per cent. of the popular use of books circulated consists of fiction. The argument has been advanced that a library should be an educator of the people and that fiction should be excluded. This would be very well in a reference library, or a library established for that purpose, or one supported from private funds, but in a free public library maintained for the people and by the people there should be such books as they desire. It must be remembered that while books are provided to suit all tastes, the widespread call in all classes of the community cannot be overlooked. No force can compel people to read the books which in the judgment of others are best suited to their wants and tastes—on these points they act for themselves. However, the call for fiction in our library is for the latter class of novels, standard and historical. The call for fiction has considerably diminished since the report of last year, 48,933 volumes having been issued during the past twelve months against 50,124 volumes of the year previous.

"Whether we can consider its external design or its internal plan, the building is equally a failure. With regard to the former we will say nothing, for no added beauty would increase the conveniences for the officers of the library or for the public who use it. The library building, when first built, was intended for a one-story structure and with convenience for a small library with not much thought for the future, when transferred to the city under an act of the Legislature regulating public libraries and many rooms. Its surplus of \$2000 was devoted to the raising of the roof and building in the walls and floor which now constitutes the library, the lower portion being attached to the reading-room. Since then 10,000 volumes have been added to the library stores, which, with the 5000 volumes already on the shelves, causes a strain on the weak foundation which it is ill able to bear. The foundation was a few years after strengthened, but the building has settled on account of the constant flow of visitors and the addition of many books, which has still further increased the weight, so that fears have been entertained for its safety. No provision was made at the time for a committee-room for the Board of Trustees, a reference-room, office for the librarian or secretary, a ladies' sitting-room, or working-room for the mending and repairing of books and getting new books ready for circulation, nor other accommodations necessary to a complete library."

The report continues with a description of the Lilly Library building at Florence, Ill., with ample room for 10,000 volumes and costing \$1000.

The library was reopened July 7.

Pittsburg, Pa. The sub-committee which recently visited a number of public libraries in the East has reported:

The Boston Public Library, the first visited, did not offer much in the way of suggestions for this library. Hon. Mellen Chamberlain, chief librarian, laid great stress on the point that whether Allegheny City would ever be a literary centre is a question that should be carefully considered in determining on what breadth of foundation the library should be laid. If Pittsburg is not likely ever to be the haunt of scholars, historians, antiquaries, and literary men generally, in the selection of books for the Carnegie Library, Mr. Chamberlain advises that the taste of the public be promptly consulted.

"A large portion of fiction and juvenile literature will be necessary," he said. In the Boston Library there are blank books called "suggestion-books," in which the public write down hints of all sorts that are thought to be of advantage to the library. The committee were advised to print, as soon as convenient after the selection and purchase of books, a single catalogue or list of the best books in the library, and put a copy of it in every home. Judge Chamberlain was emphatic in his opinion that it was not advisable to allow the public access to the shelves of a large public library.

The Public Library of Brookline, Mass., was next visited. It has been in existence 30

years, and has grown from a collection of 900 to 26,000 volumes. The library is used largely by the children of the public schools, and in its management this fact has been kept constantly in mind. Recently a special juvenile department had been fitted up to which children as young as 10 years of age have free access, and where they can be under less restriction than is necessary in the library and reading room proper.

It was concluded to adopt the catalogue of the Roxbury branch of the Boston Library. The Cooper Institute Library was not looked upon with favor, but the Pratt Library, at Baltimore, was regarded as a model. Mr. Carnegie has expressed himself as well pleased with this institution. The library has 20,000 volumes and employs 10 persons.

The Congressional Library at Washington was visited and arrangements made to secure public documents, many of which had already arrived.

The committee are of the opinion that if the recommendations hereto appended are adopted by the Library Committee and acted upon, particularly the recommendation as to engaging an expert to catalogue and organize the library, then it will be possible to open the library in a much shorter time than even the average estimate of the expert testimony.

The committee then acted upon the following recommendations:

First.—That the Carnegie Library contain a collection of not less than \$10,000 worth of books, all systematically catalogued and arranged in the shelves before the library is formally opened to the public; and that the books be of a varied character and such as in the judgment of the librarian, subject to the approval of the Library Committee, shall subserve the best interests of the public.

Second.—That the reading-room be stocked as soon as possible with not less than 100 nor more than 200 periodicals of both American and foreign publications, and that in view of the limited capacity of the reading-room as compared with those of the other large libraries visited by the committee, no daily newspapers be taken for the present except those of local issue.

Third.—That the election of an assistant librarian as provided by ordinance be for the present postponed, as the committee are satisfied from all the information they could gather on this point in their visit to other libraries, that no such assistant is now necessary.

Fourth.—That in view of the disadvantages under which the librarian labors at the outset of his work from the lack of the necessary tools of his trade, he be empowered to purchase and provide forthwith catalogues, reports, cards, cases, and other library aids as may seem to him indispensable in the work of selecting and preparing the list of books.

Further.—That in view of the large amount of correspondence and clerical work that must of necessity be done in connection with the business of selecting and purchasing books, the committee recommend that the librarian be empowered to employ at any time, as in the judgment of the sub-Committee on Library it shall be deemed neces-

sary, a skilled typewriter and stenographer at a salary not to exceed \$60 a month.

The sub-committee will act on the suggestion that a professional bookbuyer be employed, and recommendations relating to cataloguing books were laid over. Provision was made for three women assistants at \$40 per month each, one to take charge of the reading-room as soon as opened, and the others to be placed on salary when their services are needed.

Quincy (Ill.) L. Assoc. Total 7077; issued nearly 50,000.

Rockland (Mass.) P. L. was burned with many other buildings July 16.

Torrington (Conn.) L. Assoc. Mr. Lauren Wetmore, an old and highly respected citizen of Torrington, has left \$22,000 by will to the Association, subject to the life interest of his widow. During his lifetime Mr. Wetmore took a great interest in the library, and but for his timely aid and generous support its usefulness would have been much restricted. He was one of the oldest men in the town, being at the time of his death in his 89th year. His life, with the exception of eighteen years, was spent in Torrington, his native town, where he was ever an active supporter of every moral and philanthropic enterprise. He was married in 1827, and his widow survives him.

University of Pennsylvania L. Provost Pepper in his annual report says of the new library building: "As the university had no free funds available for the purpose, a committee was organized, and subscriptions amounting to \$220,000 have already been received, of which \$180,000 are for construction, and \$40,000 are specifically for additions to the endowment funds."

"Great care was given to the preparation of the plans, and a course was pursued which, it is believed, has resulted in a structure remarkably well adapted to its purposes. The storage capacity is for 350,000 volumes, but the book stack admits of indefinite extension. The remarkable rapidity of growth of the library during the past few years indicates that such extensions will be needed within the present decade."

"I desire to call attention emphatically to the point that this library is to be maintained as a free public library of reference, open to the entire community at all proper times. Although, however, there have been important additions to the library endowment, the income available for conducting the library on the basis proposed will be utterly inadequate. On the lowest estimate, an addition of \$100,000 to the present endowment, or subscriptions to the current expenses of the library amounting at least to \$5000 per annum, must be secured without delay. As this is a matter which concerns intimately both the honor of the university and the interest of the entire community, it is proper that an earnest appeal should be made in its behalf."

Washington, D. C. In the Senate, July 14, the amendment to insert an item of \$500,000 for establishing in Washington a Latin-American memorial library, the site to be selected by the Secretary of State, and the building to be erected

under his direction and supervision, having been reached, Mr. Vest opposed it as being part of the sentimental programme to secure commerce with the South American States. There was now being erected a magnificent library building at a cost of six million dollars; and certain rooms in that building might be dedicated to the purpose indicated in the amendment.

Mr. Hawley concurred with everything which Mr. Vest had said. The Library of Congress had already a very fine collection of old manuscripts, maps and books relating to the early history of the American continent, and he suggested that instead of dividing those resources it would be very much better to take a section or branch of that library and entitle it the Latin-American Memorial Library. He offered an amendment to that effect and appropriating \$25,000 for the purpose.

Mr. Vest contended that it would be no discourtesy even to the advocates of the plan if an apartment in the library of Congress were set apart for the purpose. Mr. Silva, the delegate from Columbia who originated the suggestion, had used the words "a building or apartment."

Mr. Edmunds remarked that it was obvious to any scholar or student that the separation of historical documents of one particular country or set of countries from those of all other countries was really the destruction of the value of both.

Mr. Vest predicted that if the committee amendment were adopted the cost would not be \$500,000, but at least \$2,500,000. The amendment went over without action.

Winslow, Ari. When a lot of conductors, engineers, firemen, and brakemen find themselves at one of the small, dreary stations in Arizona, New Mexico, Nebraska, or any other portion of the West, they naturally look round for some means of enjoying themselves for an hour or more that they may have to spend there. The liquor saloon is about the only attraction that such places offer, and it can hardly be wondered at that some of the trainmen acquire a taste for liquor that soon brings them to grief. Some Boston gentlemen, who have seen the way in which the men waste their time and money at such places, conceived the happy idea of furnishing a library for such stations, and several have already been established at different stations on the Atlantic and Pacific, the Atchison, and other great railroad systems of the West, and in every case the experiment has been attended with the best results. Instead of patronizing the drinking and gambling saloons, the men spend their time in the library reading standard books that not only entertain but give substantial benefit. The other day the writer had the pleasure of looking over the catalogue of a library that has recently been purchased through the liberality of the members of the Commercial Club and other gentlemen of Boston and New York. It consists of some 600 volumes, and embraces such works as Dickens, the Waverley novels, Life of Grant, histories of the war, and technical books that engineers, firemen, and other railroad men would naturally be interested in. This library is intended for the station of Winslow, Ari., on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, and it is expected that the

officials of that road will provide a room for it and will also furnish a man to take care of it.

FOREIGN.

Bodleian L. MACRAY, Rev. W. D. Annals of the Bodleian Library. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1890. 493 p. O. 25s.

"The history has been continued from 1868 to 1880, its continuance to a later date being rendered unnecessary by the librarian's recent report covering the years since that date." The former edition had only 344 pages.

England. The English library system differs greatly from our own. It brings every reader into contact with every, or almost every, new book. By paying \$5 a year a subscriber to Mudie's library, for example—has command of all the literature of the day. By paying \$25 a year he receives a parcel of various new books once a fortnight. The objection to the system is the temptation to indiscriminate reading, but this need not be much greater than in the case of one who uses one of our public libraries. It is a singular and not readily explainable fact that the more ordinary public libraries are multiplied the more editions of new publications seem to decrease in size, an effect which is the opposite of that which the subscription libraries in England seem to cause. The ordinary edition of an English three-volume novel is five hundred, of which Mudie takes the greater part, and through his agency it is read by many more people than a cheaper edition of two thousand copies or more would reach upon our method. — *Nation*.

France. ANNUAIRE des bibliothèques et des archives pour 1890, pub. sous les auspices du Min. de l'Instruct. Publique. Lille, Paris, Hachette & Co., 1890. 226 p. 8°.

Mesopotamia. TELONI, Br. Libri, documenti e biblioteche nell' antica Mesopotamia. (In *Rivista delle biblioteche*, no. 20-21, p. 134-149.)

Toronto (Can.) Univ. L. Nearly 13,000 volumes have now been promised for the new library, and over 5000 of them are already in the hands of the librarian. Many learned societies and private individuals in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Rome, Paris, Berlin, Liège, New York, Boston, Washington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Buffalo, including the Royal Society (1000 volumes) and the New Shakspere Society, have sent or promised valuable contributions. Cable messages from England state that 4000 volumes have been collected there. The Queen, the Duke of Devonshire, the Marquis of Lorne, and the British Museum are among the donors. The Canadian cities are all contributing, and the subscriptions in money have reached \$42,000. Philosophical, antiquarian, and literary societies throughout the United States have been prompt and generous in sending contributions, while some of the most valuable gifts have come from sister universities in the United States, such as Columbia College (2000 volumes). The Library Restoration Committee is going on cheerfully with the great task assigned to it, and the friends of the university

are much encouraged by the kindness and generosity of their helpers all over the world. — *Critic*.

Library Association of the United Kingdom. The Thirteenth Annual Meeting will be held at Reading, Sept. 20. The fourth day will be devoted to excursions and other entertainments.

It is proposed to devote an entire day to the subject of Public Library Legislation, and, to serve as a basis for discussion, the Draft Bill of Messrs. Fovargue & Ogle will be used.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

Cement and Glue to Stick on Anything. — Professor Alexander Winchell is credited with the invention of a cement that will stick on anything. Take 2 ounces of clear gum arabic, 1½ ounce of fine starch, ½ ounce of white sugar. Pulverize the gum arabic, and dissolve it in as much water as the laundress would use for the quantity of the starch indicated. Dissolve the starch and sugar in the gum solution. Then cook the mixture in a vessel suspended in boiling water until the starch becomes clear. The cement should be as thick as tar, and kept so. It can be kept from spoiling by dropping in a lump of gum camphor, or a little oil of cloves or sassafras. This cement is very strong, and will stick perfectly to glazed surfaces, and is good to repair broken rocks, minerals or fossils. — *Patent Review*.

Librarians.

CHAMBERLAIN, Hon. Mellen, on account of ill health has resigned the librarianship of the Boston Public Library, to take effect Oct. 1. He will have served 12 years. The Trustees passed complimentary resolutions, two of which are:

"*Voted*, That the special attainments of the librarian in the study of early American history have proved of essential advantage to the library in bringing up that department to the high standard that had already been reached in other branches of knowledge.

"*Voted*, That the same privileges in the use of the library be extended to Judge Chamberlain that are accustomed to be granted to a trustee upon his retirement."

DAVIS — RODGERS. Miss Ada C. Rodgers and Mr. Olin S. Davis were married at Topeka July 2. Mr. Davis was for two years librarian of the public library of Topeka, but is now city librarian of Duluth, Minn. Miss Rodgers was one of the post-graduates in the class of 1890 of the Topeka High School.

DIXSON, Mrs. J. E., has resigned her position as librarian of the Denison Univ. Library to become librarian of the Union Theological Seminary at Morgan Park, Ill. The seminary library, containing nearly 30,000 vols., is made up of several valuable libraries, including the famous Hengstenberg and Ide collections. Through the kindness of Dr. T. M. Colwell, of Lowell, Mass., the library of the American Bible Union has lately been presented to the seminary. It consists of about 5000 vols., which were collected

with great care and at enormous expense under Dr. T. J. Conant, while translating the Bible, and is regarded as one of the best translation collections in existence. Mrs. Dixson was engaged for some years in Columbia College Library, and has cataloged in the libraries of Elyria, Mount Vernon, and Mansfield, Ohio, La Crosse, Wis., Denison University and Kenyon College. In Denison University, during the past year, she has directed courses of collateral reading for about 45 of the students, by advising them from her wide knowledge of books what books and in what order they should read. Besides this she has been ready at all times to exhaust for inquirers the resources of that library upon any subject under special investigation. In this way she will be a valuable adjunct to the professors in the seminary by making available all the valuable material which the library possesses.

LIBRARY SCHOOL.

CATTELL, Miss Sarah Ware, class of 1890, has been appointed librarian of the Young Women's Christian Association, N. Y. City. She is spending the summer in Europe, and will begin her duties September 1.

CLARKE, Miss Edith Emily, class of 1889, for the last year head cataloger at Columbia College Library, has accepted the same position at the Newberry Library, Chicago.

DENTO, Miss Lilian, class of 1888, has taken the position of librarian of the College for Training Teachers, N. Y. City, in place of Miss Mary Medicott.

HOPSON, Miss Emma, class of 1889, has resigned her position in the catalog department of Columbia College Library, to fill a similar position in the Newberry Library, Chicago.

KROGER, Miss Alice Bertha, for several years in the issue department of the St. Louis Public Library, took the junior year in the school of 1889-90, and has returned to the same library, to assume charge of the cataloging.

PALMER, Miss Henrietta Raymer, class of 1889, is taking the regular course at Bryn Mawr College, and at the same time cataloging the college library.

PLUMMER, Miss Mary Wright, class of 1888, resigned her position as cataloger in the St. Louis Public Library, and sailed for Europe, May 31, by the *City of Rome*. She will return in time for the Conference.

TEMPLE, Miss Mabel, class of 1890, is classifying and recataloging the Jackson (Mich.) Public Library with Miss Celia Waldo, the librarian, who took a special course in the school in 1889.

WARD, Miss Anna, class of 1889, has resigned her position as librarian of the Young Women's Christian Association, N. Y. City, in order to take a much-needed rest.

WIRE, G. E., M.D., class of 1889, for the last year assistant at Columbia College Library, has been appointed Superintendent of the Medical Department in the Newberry Library, Chicago, and entered upon his duties July 3.

Gifts and Bequests.

THE Baltimore Manual Training School Library gets Mr. J. E. A. Cunningham's library of about 200 volumes with the bookcase. Columbia College Library has from Mr. C. M. Da Costa the bequest of his law and miscellaneous libraries. Columbia College L. also gets from Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Avery, in memory of their son, the late H. Ogden Avery, his architectural library, \$15,000 for the immediate purchase of books, and \$15,000 as a fund for care and increase of the collection. The Danielsonville (Conn.) People's Library gets a bequest of \$10,000 from Judge Almond M. Paine. The Ipswich (Mass.) P. L. has a bequest from Albert Farley Heard of \$10,000, the income to be spent in purchasing books. The Meadville (Pa.) Theological School has dedicated a new library building mostly given by the Huldekoper family. At Menomonie, Wis., the Mabel Tainter Literary, Library, and Educational Society has received a building just dedicated, given by Capt. and Mrs. Andrew Tainter, in memory of their deceased daughter. Montpelier, Vt., was to receive between \$350,000 and \$500,000 for a public library from Mrs. Fanny M. Kellogg, of N. Y., but the will is contested. Case adjourned till October. The Newburyport (Mass.) P. L. received during the past year a bequest of \$1000 from Abram Williams, of Boston. North Granby (Conn.) has received \$10,000 from Mr. F. H. Cossett, of New York, for a public library building. Olneyville, R. I., will receive \$1000 from Miss S. J. Eddy for a building fund, and it is hoped that \$11,000 more will be raised by subscription. The N. Y. Free Circulating Library will receive \$1500 by the will of Mr. C. M. Da Costa. Salem (Mass.) Public Library has received \$500 from Mr. A. A. Low of N. Y., a native of Salem. The Torrington (Conn.) L. Assoc. receives \$22,000 by the will of Mr. Lauren Wetmore, subject to the life interest of his widow. The Library of the University of Vermont receives \$50,000 for the management of the library, to which he gave a building costing over \$200,000.

Cataloging and Classification.

HILDEBURN, C. M. A remarkable collection of American colonial laws and early Americana illustrative of these rare books, made by the late Charlemagne Tower, has been presented by his widow to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. His son has added greatly to the value of the gift by his admirable catalogue, beautifully printed at the Lippincott Press, and presented to the Historical Society for the use of its own members and of those of kindred bodies, and of other persons interested. The elder Mr. Tower was greatly assisted in forming his collection by the indefatigable labor of one of our best American bibliographers, Mr. Hildeburn, Librarian of the Philadelphia Athenæum, and the son very wisely secured Mr. Hildeburn's help in making the catalogue, in which, characteristically, his name nowhere appears. It is an exhaustive description

of each of the 942 numbers that comprise the early laws, and the 87 numbers that include the most important illustrative works. The catalogue is prefaced by a capital sketch of Mr. Tower's life. — *Nation*, July 10.

KLEINSTÜCK, G. Bibliotheken und Kataloge; literarische Plaudereien eines Bücherliebhabers. Lpz., M. L. Moltke's Verl., 1890. 177 p. 4°. 30 m.

MODONA, Leonello. Norme per la catalogazione di opere orientali in biblioteche italiane. Firenze, tip. di G. Carnesecchi e figli, 1890. 22 p. O.

From the *Rivista delle biblioteche*, 1889.

FULL NAMES.

Reid, Capt. Mayne, was christened T. Mayne, but in after life was known only as Mayne Reid. (See his Life by his widow, p. 2, 3.)

The following are furnished by Harvard College Library.

Bartley, Elias Hudson (A text-book of medical chemistry);

Ernst, Carl Wilhelm (Personal characteristics of Luther);

Frothingham, Arthur Lincoln, Jr. (Stephen Bar Sudaill, the Syrian mystic);

Guiteau, J.: Wilson (The record of a great public benefaction);

Hibben, H.: Bascom (History of Washington navy-yard);

May, S.: Pearce (The descendants of Richard Sares (Sears) of Yarmouth, Mass.).

Bibliography.

ACKERMANN, Fr. Ad. Die Bibliographie von Oberamergau im fünfundzwanzigsten Dezenium seines Passionsspiels. (In *Börsenblatt f. d. deutschen Buchhandel*, 1890, no. 121, p. 2884-2886.)

BARADO, F. Literatura militar española, acomp. de un post-scriptum de Luis Vidart. Barcelona, tip. "la Academia," 1890. 741 p. 4°. 18.50 pes.

GONETTA, G. Saggio de bibliografia sulle corporazioni arti e mestieri. Roma, Ermanno Loescher e C., 1890. 54 p. 8°.

From the *Rivista ital. per le scienze giuridiche*, v. 9, fasc. 2.

H. GOURDON DE GENOUILLAC'S *L'art héraldique*, Paris, [1890], O., has (pp. 275-290) a "Bibliographie héraldique."

LAURIDSEN, P. Meddelelser om Grønland udg. af Commiss. for Ledelsen af de geol. og geog.

undersøgelser i Grønland, Heft 13. Bibliographica Groenlandica, eller fortegnelse paa værker, afhandlingar, og danske manuskripter, der handle om Grønland indtil aaret 1880 incl. Paa grundlag af C. G. F. Pfaff's samlinger udarbejdet af P. Lauridsen. Kjöb., Reitzel, 1890. 264 p. 8°. 3.50 kr. ().

PARONA, Dott. Corrado. Elmintologia italiana: bibliografia, sistematica, storia. [Fasc. I.] Pavia, stab. tip. succ. Bizzoni, 1890. 20 p. 8°.

PRETZ, P. Wegweiser durch die stenographische Litteratur der bekannteren Systeme, nebst Verzeichniss einer Anzahl verwandter Werke über Schriftkunde, etc. Nach den Systemen geordnet. Lpz., O. Gracklauer, 1890. 122 p. 8°. 1.50 M.

PICARD, Edmond, and LARCIER, Ferdinand. Bibliographie générale et raisonnée du droit belge. Brussels, F. Larcier, 1890. 8°.

"The publication of the fourth part completes this useful bibliography. The printing commenced in 1882, and the alphabet of authors, numbering 6786 titles, was brought to an end in the third part, having filled 870 octavo pages. The present part contains (1) a list of anonymous books and articles, (2) a catalogue of legal periodicals, and (3) a supplement, comprising the titles of all the law-books issued from the press of Belgium during the printing of the catalogue, to Oct., 1889. This supplement adds 1122 titles to the alphabet of authors, making the grand total nearly 8000. About two thirds of this number would represent the actual books and pamphlets relating to law printed in this little country since 1814 — a remarkable record, which, we think, only a few of the great nations of the world could surpass.

"The bibliography of journals deserves special mention. It is not a mere list, but a careful bibliographical record of some 130 legal and statistical journals published in Belgium. Under the rubrics, 'Mode of publication,' 'Editing and printing,' 'Collection' (i.e., number of volumes, etc.), we get the whole history of each journal, including a notice of any index or indexes which may have been published; while in many cases, also, under the additional heading of 'Anonymous contributions,' there is printed a list of the unsigned articles upon law subjects which have appeared in the journal." — *Nation*, May 15.

ROTH, H. Ling. A guide to the literature of sugar; with comprehensive subject-index. London, Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., 1890. 14 + 159 p. O.

"Contains more than 1200 titles of books, pamphlets and papers;" the libraries where they were found (28 in number) are noted.

TOURNEUX, M. Bibliographie de l'histoire de Paris pendant la Révolution Française. Tome 1: Préliminaires; Evénements. Paris, H. Champion, 1890. 80 + 520 p. 8°. 10 fr.

INDEXES.

PRAUSNITZ, W. General-Register der ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR BIOLOGIE, Bd. 1-25. München, R. Oldenbourg, 1890. 35 p. gr. 8°. 4 m.

VERGÉ, Henry, and BOUTAREL, P. de. Séances et travaux de L'ACADÉMIE DES SCIENCES MORALES ET POLITIQUES, table alphabét. et bibliog. des matières et des auteurs dans les 130 premiers vols. du Compte rendu. Paris, 1889. 7 + 308 p. O.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

Alfred Meissner. "About a year ago Franz Hedrich, a Bohemian author, agitated German literary circles by claiming to be the author of the best of Alfred Meissner's novels. Hedrich quoted from Meissner's letters to him passages which prove beyond doubt his authorship of the tragedy 'Warbeck, or, the pretender of York,' and of the novels 'Between prince and people,' and 'Black-yellow,' all of which works appeared with Meissner's name alone on the title-page. He also pointed out how he had interwoven with the text of important scenes of 'Princess of Portugal,' 'Norbert Norson,' and other novels given out by Meissner the proof of his authorship in the form of an acrostic, 'Hedrich, Author.' Although Meissner had been his bosom friend for twenty-five years, Hedrich did not hesitate to denounce him. To this Meissner's brother-in-law, Karl Bayer, better known by his pseudonym 'Robert Byr,' made a reply which was generally considered inadequate. Hedrich retorted by libelling 'Byr' and his family, which called out a challenge from 'Byr' which was declined by Hedrich. Since that Hedrich has published a number of letters and a pamphlet blackening his dead friend's fame. The outcome of all seems not to have been the rehabilitation of the dead poet and novelist in the estimation of the German literary world. Hedrich's proofs of his authorship of the tragedy 'Warbeck' and of 'The Princess of Portugal' and Norbert Norson' and 'Black-yellow' are said to be beyond rebuttal. In claiming 'Sansara' and two or three other works published in Meissner's name, however, Hedrich is generally acknowledged to have overreached himself and to have rendered himself justly liable to 'Byr's' accusations. — *Pub. weekly*, July 12.

Cupid Jones, ps. in the periodical press of Francis S. Saltus (d. June 1889), half brother of Edgar F. Saltus.

Three-cornered essays, London, Ward and Downey, 1890, D., is by the Rev. F. Arnold.

Humors and Blunders.

Books called for at the St. Louis P. L. "History of King Richard the lion hunter;" "Mistress of Adolpho."

Bibliographical Publications.

THE PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.

Established in 1872, with which was incorporated the *American Literary Gazette and Publishers' Circular* (established in 1852), by purchase from Mr. George W. Childs. Recognized as the representative of the publishing and bookselling interests in the United States. Contains full weekly record of American publications, with monthly indexes, etc. Subscription, \$3.00 per annum, postpaid; single nos., 10 cts., postpaid.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Monthly. Official Organ of the American Library Association. Edited by CHARLES A. CUTLER, Librarian Boston Athenaeum, and PAUL L. FORD. Subscription, \$5 per annum, postpaid (including the *Literary News*, monthly); single nos., 50 cts.

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A Guide for the Purchase of Books. Compiled by F. LEYFOLDT and LYND E. JONES. 32mo, paper, 10 cents.

THE AMERICAN CATALOGUE

of books in print and for sale (including reprints and importations) July 1, 1876. Compiled (under the direction of F. LEYFOLDT) by LYND E. JONES. Subject-volume, 4to, half morocco, \$15. [Author-and-title volume is out of print.]

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